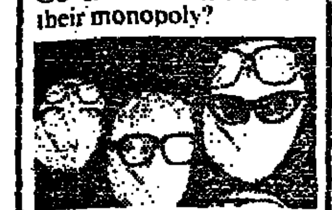
No 61,771 THE TIMES FRIDAY MARCH 2 1984 20p

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

The low rollers
From bingo hall to betting shop: Alan Hamilton reports on the small-time gamblers

Eye-openers
What's happening to opticians now the Government has ended their monopoly?



Islands in the sun
Travelling to sunspots in the Mediterranean: Malta, Corsica and Sardinia

The new Member
David Butler assesses the Chesterfield result

Just testing
John Woodcock reports from Karachi on the opening day's play of the first Test match against Pakistan

Union fears over Lords decision

Union leaders fear that the House of Lords, in upholding the Court of Appeal's decision on the illegality of the dispute between the National Union of Journalists and a company owned by David Dimbleby, the broadcaster, has opened a loophole for other employers Page 2

Law Report, page 20

Liberal budget

Liverpool City Council's Liberals presented an alternative budget involving a rate increase but avoiding the redundancies threatened by the ruling Labour group Page 2



Paris protest

Paris is braced for a mass demonstration today by five miners' unions protesting against threatened pit closures, as industrial unrest spreads throughout France Page 6

After Trudeau

The surprise resignation of Mr Pierre Trudeau as Prime Minister of Canada sent the Toronto stock market up 13 points, while would-be successors jockeyed for position Page 12

Yard pullout

Bechtel, the US construction group, is likely to announce today that it is deciding to pull out of the bidding for the Scott Lithgow shipyard Page 25

Prague deal

Frau Ingrid Berg, the East German Prime Minister's niece, left the West German Embassy in Prague after securing promises she would be allowed to emigrate to the West Page 11

Soccer rescue

Charlton Athletic has been taken over by a consortium and Robert Maxwell has formulated a rescue plan for Derby County Page 30

Husain and Arafat enter period of new found harmony

From Christopher Walker, Amman

After four days of intensive negotiation, an agreement in principle has been reached between King Husain and Mr Yassir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which could pave the way for the emergence of a block of Arab "moderates" prepared to talk with Israel over the future of the occupied territories.

Although Arab leaders do not expect any progress in the Middle East peace process until after the US elections, the new found harmony between Jordan and the PLO is an essential ingredient for any long-term development.

Among other countries which King Husain hopes will back his moderate line are Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, and the Gulf states.

"This is just the start", Mr Arafat explained in reference to the outcome of the talks. "1984 will be a year of increased concessions by the US to Israel, not a year for making peace".

He had a final 2½ hour session with the King yesterday after attending military exercises with him earlier in the the week, a symbolic gesture of their reconciliation.

Under the agreement, the infrastructure has been created for future political cooperation. This will include further here by Mr Arafat and what diplomats believe will be attempts to edge his "loyalists" wing of the PLO towards eventual recognition of Israel, possibly through redrafting of the key United Nations Resolution 242.

During the complex bargaining process now under way, it is understood that the King will allow the PLO to step up its presence in Amman, although not to the extents of letting in fighting men.

The joint Jordanian-PLO Committee for channelling Arab cash to the West-Bank has been revived after lying dormant for a year.

One reason for the non-specific nature of the agreement is to enable Mr Arafat to try to sell the idea of cooperation to other elements in the PLO, including member of his Fatah movement. He is expected to press shortly for a crucial session of the ruling Palestine National Council.

"The talks have been successful in clearing the atmosphere which prevailed after the breakdown f the earlier talks on April 10 last year", explained Mrs Laila Sharaf, Jordan's new Information Minister.

"We reached basic agreement on principles upon which we could move in the future. But no specific elements of any concrete nature have been agreed on."

Mrs Sharaf, added: "I would not characterize our agreement as an initiative nor as a formula for solving the Palestinian problem."

Many sensitive issues have been left outstanding including the central question of how the Palestinians would be represented in any future peace negotiations with Israel.

The second is expected to upset the Israeli Government which has emerged as an unlikely ally of the Arab rejectionists in its condemnation of the Amman talks, and the part played in them by a delegation of 40 West Bank Palestinians, who presented a petition to both Mr Arafat and the King urging them to cooperate before it was too late to save any Palestinian land.

Jordan is now braced for violent attempts by Syria, Libya and PLO extremists based in Damascus to try to sabotage the agreement.

The possibility of renewed terrorist attacks against Jordanian targets come less than a month before the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are due to start their tour of the desert Kingdom.

Gemayel in Syria and UN seeks deal, page 6

US missile sale to Saudi Arabia

Washington (AP) – The Washington Administration has notified Congress it intends to sell 1,200 anti-aircraft missiles to Saudi Arabia in a move already meeting opposition from supporters of Israel, a Defence Department spokesman said yesterday. The missiles would be sold for $141m (£94m) cash.



The man on the left: Mr Tony Benn, Labour candidate in the Chesterfield by-election, with his wife, Caroline, as the poll caused by Mr Eric Varley's resignation got under way yesterday (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Pay-offs curb on doomed councils

By Hugh Clayton Local Government Correspondent

Golden handshakes for new employees of councils threatened with abolition by the Government will be ruled out by a law to be enacted after Easter. The rule will apply retrospectively even if payoffs are agreed between councils and staff at the time of employment.

The rule will affect only staff engaged from today by the Greater London Council and the six English metropolitan county councils, all of which the Government proposes to abolish in two years. But the rule will not affect redundancy and compensation already agreed with councils' existing workforce of 190,000.

The rule was foreshadowed yesterday by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, when he disclosed the parts of the abolition mechanism which will affect staff of the threatened councils. A Bill to create the machinery needed for abolition will be published before Easter and a Bill to abolish the councils will follow it.

Mr John McDonnell, chairman of the GLC's finance committee, said that ministers were showing "callous disegard for thousands of GLC workers and their families." He also condemned the Government's decision to include in the abolition Bill a clause allowing borough and district councils which will take over the tasks of abolished councils to challenge their spending in court before abolition.

Mr Jenkin explained that the new right for the district and borough councils was the same as that already available to individual electors, he added that the successor borough and district councils will have to consider taking staff from the abolished councils when they take over the function of those councils.

Those who move to similar jobs in smaller councils for lower pay will receive lump sums yet-to-be-negotiated with unions. A new quango will be set up to stop threatened councils giving "unjustified" pay rises and promotions.

No action taken on journalist

The Director of Public Prosecutions will not be taking action against Mr Duncan Campbell, the New Statesman journalist, whose papers were seized by police after he was knocked unconscious in a bicycle accident. Scotland Yard said last night that Mr Campbell's bag was taken to King's Cross Road police station for safe keeping. Mr Campbell commented: "They are not taking action because the DPP knows it would be a great embarrassment to them."

Smaller Airbus wins £250m from state

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Government will provide British Aerospace with £250m of launch aid for its share in the development of the next joint European airliner, the A320 Airbus.

The long-awaited decision was announced yesterday by Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, and comes after months of intensive debate within Whitehall on whether to pump public funds into the project.

The Government is not giving British Aerospace all the financial aid it originally asked for. The compnay wanted more than £430m of support, but has now agreed to find another £180m from its own resources in addition to the £200m it has already promised to provide.

Yesterday's decision, which will ensure that the A320 project goes ahead, was immediately welcomed by Sir Austin Pearce, chairman of British Aerospace. He said that it would help to secure 6,500 jobs over the next 20 years, 4,500 of them at British Aerospace and another 2,000 among its component and other suppliers.

The company also announced yesterday that it is to start full production of another aircraft, the ATP advanced turboprop airliner. This should safeguard another 2,000 jobs, mostly in the Manchester area.

Sir Austin personally thanked Mr Tebbit and the Prime Minster for listening to his company's arguments for backing the Airbus project in what he described as "a long and difficutl" process of negotiation.

Most of the money the Government is providing will be made available over the next four years and is designed to meet the early research and development costs of the project. British Aerospace will provide the bulk of the funds in later years.

Of the Government finance, £50m will be repayable over three years starting in 1990, and the balance will be refundable by means of levys on individual aircraft as they are eventually produced and sold.

The Government is apparently finally convinced that the Airbus project can be profitable, despite the extremely poor record of most previous attempts to invest public funds in expensive civil aviation projects. Mrs Thatcher told MPs last year that she did not want to be landed with "another Concorde".

British Aerospace has a 20 per cent stake in the Airbus consortium, the other partners being France, West Germany and Spain. Its role in the A320 is to provide the wings of the new aircraft, a small to medium-range 150 seat airliner that Mr Tebbit said yesterday was destined to become the "workhorse" of the 1990s.

So far, there have been 51 firm orders for the A320, with another 45 options from potential customers. British Aerospace has calculated that the Airbus group needs to sell 400 aircraft to make the investment start to pay off. It is predicting sales of 700 A320s over the next 15 years.

Paliament, page 4

Ready for take-off: A320 will secure 6,500 jobs

Kinnock aid for moves against left

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock is backing plans to weaken the hold of the firm left on the Labour Party.

Senior party sources said last night that the Labour leader had endorsed a one-person, one-vote system for the reselection of Labour MPs as candidates from December 9.

Constituency parties are at present holding their annual meetings, giving MPs an indication of internal party opposition to their reselection, and the Commons is buzzing with speculation about the people who could be dropped.

Tribune, the firm left's weekly newspaper, said yesterday: "Leading Labour MPs whose seats are thought to be in jeopardy include Gerald Kaufman, Manchester, Gorton; Peter Shore, Bethnal Green and Stepney; and John Silkin, Deptford."

They also mentioned Miss Betty Boothroyd, of West Bromwich, West.

The paper, which has strong links with constituency activists, added: "The chances of a successful attempt to save them are slim.

"Trade unions are unlikely to back the so-called 'one-member, one-vote' system because it would result in a decline in the influence of local union branches in selecting candidates."

Mr Kinnock's backing for an extension of party democracy, probably through branch ballots, could just be enough to break long-standing union resistance.

The alternative would be 18 months of Labour bloodshed, wih MPs using all their power to defend themselves against constituency activists, just when the party should be consoldidating for the next election.

It was noted by some Labour sources last night, however that Mr Kinnock's preference apparently went beyond one-person, one-vote ballots just for the selection and reselection of candidates.

Thatcher gracious in GCHQ victory

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Giving the first sign of willingness to be magnanimous in victory, the Prime Minister yesterday thanked the great majority of staff of the Government Communications Headquarters for agreeing to relinquish trade union membership, and sympathized with those who had found the decision difficult.

She told the Commons that well over 90 per cent had fallen in with govenment wishes.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher was prompted by a Conservative back bencher, Sir Anthony Meyer, who congratulated her on showing courage and determination in winning a great victory at Cheltenham which he thought no less significant than her victory in the South Atlantic.

Sir Anthony, MP for Clwyd North-west asked if she agreed that the fruits of both would endure if in both cases she showed a spirit of conciliation to the vanquished.

The Prime Minister responded at once, saying that her decision had been urged by the GCHQ management but, while she realized it was welcomed by some, it had been exceedingly difficult for others.

On Tuesday, when she condemned the organized disruption by trade unions protesting against the policy, Mrs Thatcher's tone was defiant. Yesterday she answered quietly.

The change earned the approval of backbench Conservatives and several senior ministers unhappy about the political price the Government has paid in imposing its will, or rather the Prime Minister's will, at Cheltenham.

Some of Mrs Thatcher's colleagues believe that the TUC has had its biggest public relations success for some time in presenting itself as the wronged party.

They regret that Mr Len Murray and the TUC have been stung into acquiescence in unlawful secondary action of which they previously disapproved.

In spite of this regret, a majority of the Cabinet appear to believe that the exclusion of the unions from Cheltenham was the correct decision.

Defeated unions, page 2



Sir Anthony Meyer: Advocated conciliation.

BP project to create 7,000 jobs

By David Young Energy Correspondent

BP is to develop four natural gas fields in the southern sector of the North Sea, involving an investment of £1.3 billion and creating up to 7,000 jobs in the British offshore oil industry.

The fields, in water between 100 and 150 feet, deep, are 40 miles off the Humberside coast and will need seven or eight new production platforms.

BP, which is expected to announce record profits in a fortnight, will place more than 80 per cent of the contracts needed for the fields with British industry. Gas should come ashore in 1987 with full supplies to the national network starting in 1990.

The new fields, named Cleeton, Ravenspurn, Hyde and Hoten after Yorkshire villages which have disappeared because of coastal erosion, contain 2.5 trillion cubic feet of gas, equivalent to 450 million barrels of oil in energy terms.

BP made the discoveries some years ago, but in the past 18 months company engineers have been able to more accurately assess the extent of the reserves.

The gas, which will be sold to British Gas after negotiation, is expected to undercut supplies of Norwegian and Dutch gas on both price and delivery.

Details, page 25

Worsening jobless trend perplexes Whitehall

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The jobless trend has worsened sharply in the first two months of this year after several months of near stability.

Though the total number of people out of work fell last month by nearly 13,300 to 3,186,386, this was much less than the normal February drop. After adjusting for seaonal variations and excluding school leavers, the number of unemployed adults rose by 28,600 to 3,004,600, or one in eight of the workforce, similar to increase of 29,900 in January.

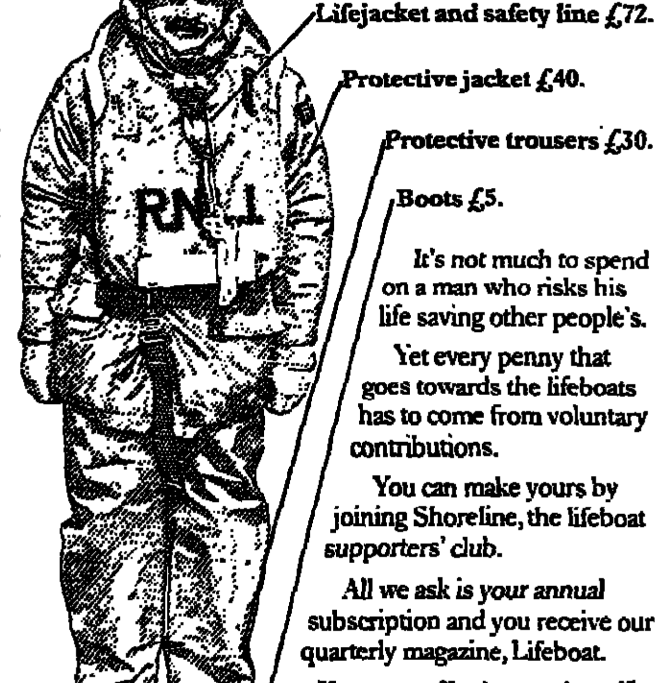
This compares with gains of only 1,300 a month in the second half of last year,

Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, admitted that the figures were disappointing. The Government has been hoping that unemployment would steady this year and perhaps decline slightly, as econmic recovery continued.

But privately officials confessed thay were perplexed. Other evidence suggests that the demand for labour has strengthened. People are working more overtime and employment has begun to rise, while the latest survey of manufacturing by the Confederation of British Industry show that companies in all sectore were planning to boost output and investment.

However, vacancies, after rising steeply for much of last year, have been dclining for four months.

Productivity in industry is still improving rapidly, which suggest that companies are producing more with a smaller workforce.



Pensions rise rejected by Thatcher

The Prime Minister yesterday rejected demands for an increase in the basic rates of retirement pensions.

She met a delegation from the National Pensioners' Convention and the TUC at the Commons, but told them that the Government could not agree to an £8.40 increase in the single person's pension to £42.45, and a £13.75 rise to £68.25 for a married couple.

Mrs Thatcher told them their plans would mean a sharp increase in national insurance contributions.

Mr Jack Jones, former general secretary of the transport workers' union, who led the delegation, thanked Mrs Thatcher for the meeting, but told her: "We leave frustrated and disappointed".

Pensioners' rally, page 5

Package deal on zoos

London sends camels to Qatar

By Colin Hughes

London Zoo this week opened the first in what promises to become one of Britain's most extraordinary exclusive exports to the Gulf oil shaikhs.

It has put together the first "package zoo", opened in Doha, Qatar, and that has meant taking coals a great deal further than Newcastle: among the nearly 300 animals transported to the Arabian desert are three camels.

Mr David Jones, director of zoos, is quick to emphasize that the camels are bactrians, not the one-humped dromedaries indigenous to the region. "We thought they would be intrigued by the two-humped variety, and we were right", he said yesterday, after returning from the zoo's opening ceremony.

London Zoo has not only exported an ark-load of special-interest beasts in two plane loads but also provided zoo management, head keepers, and recruited 120 staff.

Mr Jones and his consultancy team work alongside a British architect and construction group to produce a complete zoo design. In this case Bonington's of St Albans drew up the plans but preparations are being made to do the same with other British firms. The charge is in the region of £25m a zoo.

The Doha zoo is based on the rebuilt palace of a former shaikh, who established 10 acres of mature woodland in the desert around his home. "As you can imagine, the conditions are not normally ideal for keeping animals which come from a variety of climates and need plenty of water, which is why the design is so crucial", said Mr Jones.

So far the consultancy is bringing in only £200,000 a year to London Zoo, and Whipsnade. But another zoo is being built in Kuwait, and sketches are underway for a National Zoo in Sharjah – one of the United Arab Emirates.

Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Libya, and Algeria are also expressing keen interest. "We have done nothing to promote this at all yet and are only considering proposals made to us. But we are shortly going to have to decide whether to expand to cope with the demand."

England soccer team faces European ban

The England football team could be banned from playing in Europe after the violence in Paris on Wednesday night.

That was the warning last night from the Sports Minister, Mr Neil Macfarlane, and the Football Association secretary, Mr Ted Croker, after Mrs Thatcher condemned fans who "disgraced our country's name abroad".

Ministers and soccer officials agree that it would be very difficult if not impossible to impose a complete ban on England supporters travelling abroad.

Mr Macfarlane said that the FA had done everything in its power to prevent trouble

The fear is that the rest of Europe may decide to break off fixtures against England

Fans condemned, page 3

NUJ faces demand to make Dimbleby strike official and defy law

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

National Union of Journalist leaders will decide today whether to defy the law after the House of Lords refused yesterday to lift an injuction taken out by David Dimbleby, the broadcaster.

The union executive will be faced with strong pressure to again make official a strike by nine journalists at Mr Dimbleby's Richmond and Twickenham Times newspaper group. It would then risk sequestration of assets, as happened to the National Graphical Association.

Left-wingers arguing that Mr Dimbleby, who has been under pressure from NUJ members at the BBC to give up his contract to present Budget programmes this month, will back down from a formal conflict.

It is also possible that the NUJ would want TUC approval for such a step.

The law lords ruling was that the union had been taking illegal secondary action against the non-union TBF Printers, to which production of Mr Dimbleby's papers was transferred. Costs to the union could amount to more than £75,000.

The judgment concurred with that of the Court of Appeal, which decided that TBF Printers and T Bailey Forman, with which the union has a dispute since 1978, were separate legal entities.

The ruling has profound implications for the labour-movement and for company structure.

Mr Graham Mather, of the Institute of Directors and the Conservative Party's Centre for Policy Studies, said yesterday that it was unlikely companies would set up "artificial" subsidiaries to circumvent the Employment Act of 1980, but that would be a consideration when corporate structures were developed.

Mr Ken Ashton, NUJ general secretary, said: "This judgment could well open the floodgates for employers to renege on agreements. It will permit the setting up of ancillary companies where previous agreements would not prevail and where there would be a strong deterrent to unionization".

Ms Joanna Davies, chairman of the NUJ chapel (office branch) at Richmond, said the nine striking journalists had proposed a motion for today's executive meeting urging that the strike be made official again.

Mr Dimbleby said that it would be most unwise for the union to make the dispute official.

He said that the contract with TBF Printers ended in October and would be reviewed.

Lord Diplock said that if Dimbleby and Sons went ahead to a full trial of their damages action, the NUJ would be liable for damages up to a maximum of £125,00, and unlimited fines.

Law Report, page 20

Labour 'nudged over precipice'

The labour movement felt yesterday that five noble and learned Law Lords had nudged them finally over a legal precipice.

In upholding a decision by the Court of Appeal, the House of Lords not only set the seal on the illegality of a dispute between the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) and a company owned by Mr David Dimbleby, the broadcaster, but also pointed the way to a loophole through which, union leaders fear, anti-union employers will inevitably pour.

The kernel of the Law Lords' ruling, as far as the unions and corporate lawyers are concerned, is the decision that TBF Printers and T. Bailey Forman – companies with an identical ownership, place of business, telephone number, and similar management – are separate legal entities under labour law.

It follows that action by journalists employed by Mr Dimbleby on his *Richmond and Twickenham Times* series of newspapers to stop the flow of copy to the non-union TBF Printers, appointed last October to take over from "in-house" union printers, constitutes illegal secondary action.

If Mr Dimbleby had transferred the printing of his newspapers to T. Bailey Forman, a company with which the NUJ has been in perfectly legal dispute for the past five years concerning the *Nottingham Evening Post*, the industrial action would have been immune under the Employment Act, 1980.

Union leaders believe that the ruling will result in an explosion of activity at Companies House.

It would appear that under the Act an employer who operates through one company could now divide it into separate corporate entities (ie, companies) thus making it less likely for a business to be shut down by industrial action because of a grievance concerning one of its parts.

The ruling also means that while secondary acton against separate businesses which are first suppliers to a company in dispute remains lawful, action against a company which is to all intents and purposes identical to the company involved in the dispute can be illegal.

In arriving at the Court of Appeal decision, Sir John Donaldson commented on the seeming anomalies: "It may strike people as odd that the liability of the defendants should depend upon what they reasonably regard as almost being a matter of chance, namely whether the directors of TBF Group decided to arrange that one subsidiary should employ journalists and another undertake printing, as contrasted with deciding that one subsidiary should undertake both printing and journalism.

"Whether or not the defendants would be right so to regard the position, that appears without doubt to be the law."

March, 1983: Mr David Dimbleby starts negotiations with the National Graphical Association (NGA) over redundancies in print works.
August: Negotiations break down. Two redundancies announced. NGA calls a strike. Last issues of Dimbleby newspapers printed on August 19.
October: Mr Dimbleby closes the printing plant and dismisses 24 NGA men on strike. Contrac is started with non-union TBF Printers. National Union of Journalists (NUJ) instructs members employed by Mr Dimbleby not to supply copy. The 13 journalists who take action are suspended. Mr Dimbleby applies for injunction restraining the NUJ. Dimbleby newspapers reappear, printed by TBF.
November: Judge grants an injunction, but the 13 journalists decide to stay on strike. NUJ fails to win plea at the Appeal Court.
December: NUJ told by Sir John Donaldson that it will be in contempt of court if it refuses to reverse strike instructions. NUJ refuses. Later leave is granted for appeal to the House of Lords if instruction rescinded. National executive withdraws its instruction, but strikers vote to stay out. Mr Dimbleby wins a further High Court injunction ordering the NUJ to "distance" itself from the dispute and guarantee that no disciplinary action will be taken against journalists who return to work.
January 1984: A special delegate meeting of the NUJ reaffirms the right of the union to defy the law on matters of principle. Calls on TUC for support.
February: House of Lords turns down the NUJ appeal.

Church remarriage for divorced couple

Defeated GCHQ unions try to pick up the pieces

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Trade union acivists at the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) in Cheltenham who have refused to resign their union membership have been told by the management that they will still have members at the centre for the foreseeable future.

Unions have set up alternative arrangements for representing their members in GCHQ today. The Civil Service unions also confirmed plans – disclosed in *The Times* – to back a "club or society" at Cheltenham to maintain cntact with former members.

Despite those attempts to maintain a presence at the centre, unions yesterday made a tacit admission that their opposition to the Government's ban on unions had failed.

Mr William McCall, chairman of the Civil Service trade unions, said: "If it is a victory for Mrs Thatcher it is one which has earned her the contempt of all staff of GCHQ, the whole of the Civil Service and the trade union movement, and of every fair-minded democrat in this country".

Union leaders also disclosed that officials of the six unions represented at Cheltenham had been asked by the management to hand over their branch files. Mr Gerry Gillman, general secretary of the Soiety of Civil and Public Servants, said agreement had been reached for security staff to supervise the destruction of confidential information in the files.

"After that the files will be removed from GCHQ and if management so much as lays one finger on them we shall immediately institute legal action because they are union property", Mr Gillman said.

The unions believe that, having persuaded the vast majority of the staff to agree to renounce union membership in return for the £1,000 payment, the Government will not increase tensions by pressing for early dismissals of union loyalists.

It is thought that a hardcore group of union activists will eventually number fewer than 100. The unions believe that the Government will not want to run the risk of a TUC-backed 24-hour national day of action by seeking dismissals. They also argue that some of the staff who are refusing to accept the Government's terms are vital to the efficient operation of GCHQ.

A letter sent yesterday by the Council of Civil Service Unions to GCHQ staff who have indicated they wish to remain union members says: "We are determined not to concede the principle of free trade union organization and representation at GCHQ. This fight is not going to end now, we are determined to keep it going for as long as necessary to obtain justice."

The letter re-states the unions' commitment to make up the take-home pay of dismissed union members and also give legal support to any membr who is dismissed or victimized. "We are determined to continue representing you by all means available to us", it says.

Yard on alert over Libyan attack fear

By Henry Stanhope and Stewart Tendler

The Foreign Office and Scotland Yard issued an urgent warning yesterday to leading figures in London's Libyan community that they could face attack today on a key anniversary in Colonel Gaddafi's regime.

Specialist groups at Scotland Yard including the anti-terrorist squad and elements of the Special Branch have been placed on alert and police guards are to be mounted on potential targets. Protection is expected to be provided for some Libyan exiles while others may be told to take precautions.

The information on possible attacks is understood to have come partly through intelligence sources. Today is the anniversary of the beginning of a congress in Libya in 1977 which changed the status of Libya into a "Arab state of the masses" and in several years there has been speculation early in March of atacks by pro-Gaddafi groups.

The speculation has always centred on special squads sent from Libya but the warning from Whitehall and the Yard yesterday talks only of "factions in the Libyan community". However, the warning, given in a lengthy statement, refers to "reports circulating of trouble between factions". A police source indicated last night that there has not in fact been any trouble to date.

Anti-Gaddafi groups go further and say they have been expecting attacks from Tripoli-controlled groups for some weeks.

The statement said: "Reports have been circulating of trouble between factions in the Libyan community. This trouble may come to a head tomorrow. Police are taking the reports seriously.

The statement says that in 1980 newspaper kiosks and newsagents selling Arab newspapers were attacked and could again be targets. A "considerable number of police" will be guarding the mosque in Regent's Park in London and the statement points out that Mr Mohammed Mustafa Ramadan, a Libyan journalist, was killed there by Gaddafi gunmen in 1980.

A few weeks later a Libyan lawyer, Mr Mahmoud Abbu Nafa, was shot dead im Kensington. In June 1980 Mr Musa Kusa, the secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau was expelled from Britain after telling *The Times* that two more Libyan exiles were to be killed in Britain.

US 'pledge to replace UK carrier'

By Rodney Cowton
Defence Correspondent

The United States was prepared to supply a replacement ship if either of Britain's carriers with the Falklanda task force, HMS Invincible or HMS Hermes, had been lost, an article says in today's issue of *The Economist*.

The article, by Simon Jenkins, political editor, also says that in the later stages of the conflict Britain persuaded the Americans to move a military satellite from its orbit over the northern hemisphere to cover the Falklands area.

It says the value of American material supplied to Britain was $60m, excluding the cost of 200 Sidewinder missiles and 12.5m gallons of aviation fuel.

The Ministry of Defence said last night that it never commented on intelligence matters and was not prepared to confirm the claims about thee amount of material received.

The claims in *The Economist*, which come from American sources, are likely to embarrass the United States acutely in its relations with South American countries if they are confirmed.

The report suggests that much of the assistance was given on the initiative of Mr Caspar Weinburger, the US Defence Secretary, and knowledge of it was at times concealed from other members of the Administration.

More action days are threatened

By Rupert Morris

Further "days of action" might follow Tuesday's half-day protest by trade uniionists against the Government's ban on union membership at the at the Cheltenham communications headquarters, Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, said yesterday.

Mr Murray made a fund-raising businessman's lunch for the Jewish Blind Society at the London Hilton the occasion for his most outspoken attack so far on the Prime Minister for her handling of the affair.

He said she treated trade unions like children, "voracious at one end and uncontrollabe at the other", and had bracketed them with subversive organizations by her implication that it was impossible to be a trades unionist and be trustworthy.

"I do wish she would not spend half of her time denoucing us for irresopnsibility, while spending the other half deliberately denying us any responsibility," he said.

He said that he and his TUC colleagues had been negotiating with Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Employment a few weeks earlier and had saved the Government cosiderable embarrassment by political levy to the Labour Party.

He himself had been speaking to Conservative backbenchers within the past week, and would be doing so again.

Unions set up local alternative

From Craig Seton
Cheltenham

The nuts and bolts of a Cheltenham-based Civil Service trade union organization were put together yesterday to represent members of GCHQ staff who have refused to give up union membership.

The unions believe that more than 200 members of staff will have either refused to give up union membership or seek a transfer or will have signed the union's own option form stating their wish to remain at GCHQ and in a trade union by last night's midnight deadline for the return of option forms.

Local Civil Service union coordinators believe that the numbers involved in their "hard-core" support inside GCHQ might be sufficient to force management to consider an alternative to sacking them.

Mr Mike Barke, Cheltenham coordinator of the council of Civil Service unions, said the newly-established local organization would attempt to provide an organization for GCHQ staff who had signed Option B – asking for a transfer – or who had signed the union's own Option C

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 126; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8 50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 126; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 100

Shah wins £73,653 damages

Mr Eddie Shah was awarded more than £73,000 damages from the National Graphical Association (NGA) by a High Court judge in Chester yesterday.

Mr Shah, chief of the Stockport Messenger Newspaper Group, won his appeal against an earlier court decision which allowed the NGA to defend against his claim for damages during picketing at the group's printing works at Warrington.

Following a two-day hearing in private last week, the Judge, Mr Justice Wood, yesterday awarded £73,653 and interest to be assessed for damages and security costs during the six-month dispute, but mainly when mass picketing reached its height in November.

Mr Shah, who was not in court for the ruling, said later that he was very pleased with the decision.

"I am pleased that the bully boys have had to pay for the damage they did", he said.

Mr Charles Garside, who represented Mr Shah, said the NGA had indicated that they would be appealing against the decision to the Court of Appeal.

● Provincial newspaper employers last night lodged the "strongest possible protest" in a letter to the Broadcasting Complaints Commission over the Channel Four programme "Diverse Reports" on Wednesday evening, which considered attempts to introduce new technology into newspaper production.

Liberals give Liverpool an alternative budget

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

Liverpool's ratepayers were presented for the first time yesterday with an alternative to the budget arithmetic of the city council's ruling Labour group.

The Liberals, the council's second largest party, gave details of a 1984-85 budget, to be financed by a rate rise of between 6 and 9 per cent, involving neither redundancies nor a disruption of services.

Sir Trevor Jones, the council's Liberal leader until Labour's victory at the May election, said his party's alternative exposed the politicking of the majority.

The Liberals claim a workable budget costing £220m could be achieved through the sale of council-owned land, a recruitment freeze, redeployment of staff and various financial manouevres, such as the charging of house repairs to the capital rather than the current account.

Sir Trevor admitted the key was cooperation from the municipal unions. The 5,800 members of the National and Local Government Officers' Association will note next on a motion condemning all cuts and backing the Labour budget plan.

Sir Trevor said: "Labour's claims of needing 5,000 redundancies or a huge rate increase to meet the spending target are a figment of their imagination. It is all designed to try to frighten people and get them to march and riot."

● Rates in Basildon, Essex, are to rise by more than 8 per cent next month, the Labour-led council decided last night. That increase confirms the council's position at the head of the Government's list for the first stage of "rate-capping" next year.



Sir Trevor Jones: union cooperation would be needed.

Sale room

Bishop's secret 'life' sold

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The British Library spent £1,650 yesterday on a secret copy of a seventeenth-century memoir, made without the author's permission. The previously unknown manuscript of Bishop Burnet's *The History of my own Life and of the most Remarkable Things I have known and Observed in the World* came up for auction at Lawrence's of Crewkerne in Somerset.

Quaritch, the London dealers, were at the sale to buy the manuscript on the library's behalf. "It seems to me very cheap, though it may be rash of me to say so," D Waley, keeper of manuscripts, said yesterday.

The bishop's posthumously published *History of his Own Time* is one of the main sources for the great revolution of 1688. It is based on his memoirs; around 1703 the bishop decided to divide out his "Life" from his "Times".

The Crewkerne manuscript had been sent for sale by the widow of the last Earl Paulett, who died in 1973, and can be identified as that copy. It is more complete than the surviving part of the Bishop's own manuscript.

Hunt for rapist

Police were yesterday huning a man who tied up and raped two girls aged 10 in Stockport, Greater Manchester, on Wednesday night. They were playing in the street near their homes when the man asked them to help him look for his lost dog.

Correction

Mr Colin Howard and Mr Laurence Tomsett, who were convicted at the Central Criminal Court on Wednesday on charges of conspiracy to steal, falsifying accounting documents, and interfering with a computer to deceive the Morgan Guaranty Trust Bank, both pleaded not guilty rather than guilty as reported in *The Times* yesterday.

هكذا من الأصل

Thatcher brands violent football fans a disgrace to Britain

Damage estimated at £60,000 to cars on the dockside of Dunkirk testified yesterday to the havoc caused by British football fans on Wednesday as they made their way to Paris.

The new BL models, awaiting transit to Italy, were in a sealed compound, but that did not prevent a handful of hooligans playing dodgems while they waited for a train.

Yesterday 10 battered cars lay scattered around the large transit yard as insurance assessors for BL catalogued the destruction. The full toll was: four Metros, three Acclaims, two Maestros and one Mini.

M Michel Bataillie, Phoenix Assurance assistant manager at Dunkirk, said: These supporters bought their tickets individually like other passengers and it was only at Dover that British police were alerted to possible problems."

M Bataillie said there were about 300 supporters on the French Sealink ferry St Eloi, but by the time it docked with smashed windows and covered in broken bottles there was no time to bring in French police.

However, he said it was amazing that only 10 out of several hundred cars, including Rovers and Range Rovers, were damaged.

The fans' behaviour "disgraced our country's name abroad", the Prime Minister told the Commons today.

Labour MPs said that National Front members could have organized much of the violence.

But the sports Minister, Mr Neil Macfarlane said that he did not know whether coordinated minority groups were involved.

Mr Macfarlane will meet the chairman and secretary of the Football Association today to discuss the incident.

"I fully intend to continue to urge all concerned to do everything possible to rid the game of these mindless louts and to urge European countries to use stringent penalties against convicted offenders to act as a deterrent."

Six Britons were still detained in prison last night after being charged in connexion with the violent incidents before, during and after the international in Paris on Wednesday.

Twenty-six others who had been arrested were released after questioning. No charges were brought in connexion with the damage caused to trains and ferries on the journey to and from London.

Further incidents involving British fans were reported yesterday. In Calais, a hotel was badly damaged, and on the Paris to London mail train, the sealed mail compartment was broken into.

Those charged in connexion with the overturning of a car whose driver was seriously injured have been named as: Joseph Keogh, aged 20, from Bolton; Paul Baker, aged 19, from Middlesex; and David Baldry, aged 21, from Aldershot.

Adrian Hind, aged 18, believed to come from Cornwall, has been charged with damaging a vehicle; Brian Drury, aged 20, address not known, has been charged with carrying a knife; and William Robertson, aged 23, from Bournemouth, has been charged with breaking windows and injuring a policeman while resisting arrest.

Mr Kenneth Warburton, aged 22, from Stockport, who was stabbed in the back at the match was still in hospital last night.

The Labour MP for Blackburn, Mr Jack Straw had told the Commons: "A group was carrying a banner called the Blackburn National Front."



Leap year double: Mrs Suzanne Dlycik, who was born on February 29, 1956, showing off her baby, Lisa, born on February 29 this year at Princess Alexandra Hospital at RAF Wroughton, Wiltshire. The chances of the coincidence are three million to one, Mr Richard Dlycik said.

Dallas businessmen on London mission to change an image

By John Lawless

The inhabitants of Dallas are fed up with their city's television image, but the 18 top businessmen coming to London in two weeks' time to change that impression could confirm viewers' prejudices.

The man reputed to be the richest Texan, Mr Trammel S Crow, whose personal fortune is estimated at more than $500m, will be in the group.

The party is sparing no expense to get the message across, hiring the Churchill Hotel for the day.

The British Overseas Trade Board has been asked to invite 100 businessmen to a free lunch.

The board said: "They are anxious to put across the real industrial and economic profile of Dallas, to get it away from the oil and cattle ranching image of the television series.

"But they are genuinely putting a great emphasis on trade opportunities. They say they want to meet British businessmen who can sell them high-technology products in things like electronics and defence equipment, and quality consumer goods, such as clothing and furniture."

The group will also argue that Dallas is the best location for a distribution site for the southern states.

Mr Crow is the chairman of the 175-acre Dallas Market Center, said to be the world's largest wholesale trade market.

The Texas Business magazine recently reported how he had built Info Mart, a "glittering replica" of the former Crystal Palace.

It is, however, the career of the group leader, Major Starke Taylor, which seems to epitomize the self-made American millionaire. He started in the cotton business at 13 and sold his merchanting company to a Swiss buyer in 1980.

He retains a seat on the board, is the director of Dallas's First City Bank, the Dallas and US Telephone Communications Inc, and chairman of a property development and investment consultancy company.

To emphasize high-technology, the mission includes Mr Henry Smyth, who heads the army helicopter improvement programme at Bell Helicopters' plant in Dallas.

Britain loses 1,000 petrol stations every year

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Britain is losing 1,000 petrol stations a year, according to figures issued by *Petroleum Review*, the Institute of Petroleum's monthly publication.

The institute's figures show that although the number is falling new brands continue to appear on forecourts and the number of self-service stations continues to rise by about 500 a year.

Last year, five new brands appeared – BFC, Peak, Consort, Quest and Spitfire. By contrast, the number of stations owned by the main oil companies fell by 230.

There are now 23,097 petrol stations in Britain, comprising 19,746 in England and Wales, 2,061 in Scotland, 1,109 in Northern Ireland, 141 in the Channel Islands and 40 in the Isle of Man. Of that total 8,718 sell DERV.

Two in love triangle murder jailed for life

A former police constable and a contract killer were sentenced to life imprisonment at the Central Crminal Courty yesterday, with a recommendion that they should serve a minimum of 15 years.

Mr Justice Leonard told Anthony Bellchambers, aged 38, and Lawrence Shirey, aged 54, that they had cunningly planned and carried out the "terrible murder" of Mr Norman Cleary, aged 38, a Fleet Street printer.

The judge said that Bellchambers, a prosperous electrical supplier, of Highfield Close, Braintree, Essex, had bought the death of Mr Cleary, of Bale Close, Colchester, who was living with Mrs Christine Bellchambers, his wife.

Bellchambers, dismissed from the police force after being jailed in the 1960s for armed robbery at a hostel, acted for revenge and from a juealous obsession.

Shirley, demolition worker, of Norval Green, Brixton, and an alcoholic, turned executioner for greed, the judge added.

The two men were convicted of murdering Mr Cleary, who died in hospital three weeks after being ambushed and beaten over the head by Shirley at a block of flats in Islington, north London, in November, 1981.

Mr James Rant, QC for the prosecution, said that although Bellchambers was a prime suspect he had a "cast-iron alibi". He was drinking with a number of people at a public house in south London, many miles away from where Mr Cleary was struck down.

Within minutes of the attack Shirley drove past the public house and gave two long blasts on the horn, a pre-arranged signal to Bellchambers that the "contract" had been carried out.

It was not until last summer that details of the contract came to light when Mrs Bellchambers, by then divorced, made a report to detectives.

A "middle man" who had taken cash payments from Bellchambers to Shirley, totalling £10,000 was traced. When interrogated both Bellchambers and Shirley confessed but maintained that the plan had only been to give Mr Cleary "A bit of a hiding" and not to kill him. Shirley who was Canadian born, had served a 20-year sentence for armed robbery and shooting at police.

Man killed wife, sons and himself

A sales manager shot dead his wife, two sons and himself after hearing that she was having an affair and wanted a divorce and that he was to lose his £10,000-a-year job, an inquest was told yesterday.

Mr David Cook, aged 39, his wife Pauline, aged 34, Nathan, aged 12, and Benjamin, aged 11, were found in their burning home near Goole, Humberside, in January.

Mrs Cook's hands and ankles had been tied. The children were in their bedroom. The first shot had missed Benjamin, who had struggled.

Det Insp Archibald Todd said a film about a husband who committed suicide after discovering his wife's affair, was found in the video recorder.

Verdicts of unlawful killing and suicide were recorded.

'Mediocre' ferries criticized

By Derek Harris

Many car ferry services to the Continent, investigatded by *Holiday Which?* last summer, were "mediocre, with drab surroundings, unimaginative catering, and irritatingly long queues even when the ship was nowhere near full".

A few ships were even unpleasant to travel on, according to the report on the inspectors' investigations.

Some services, however, were worth recommending, the report says. These were: Sally the Viking Line's Ramsgate-Dunkirk service for the most comfortable short crossing; Olau Line's Sheerness-Vlissingen ferries for the most comfortable medium-length crossing; DFDS for comfortable Scandinavian crossings.

Townsend-Thorensen was considered the best of the big fleets.

Drink guard on children's train

A drunken railway guard had to be removed from a special train carrying hundreds of hancicapped children, York magistrates heard yesterday.

Malcolm Mack, aged 40, of South Shields, Tyne and Wear, was finded £150 after admitting being drunk on duty. Mack – since dismissed – had drunk the equivalent of 10 pints of beer.

Order to return tomcat refused

A dispute over the ownership of a ginger tomcat at the centre of a Crown court case remained unresolved yesterday when magistrates at Redbridge, north-east London, refused a request to issue an order for the cat to be returned to Police Constable John Sewell and his wife Anna.

Exam blow to coloured PCs

Low educational standards are holding back the recruitment of coloured policemen, the Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire, Mr Ian Kane, says in his annual report published yesterday.

Despite a recruiting drive launched two years ago, there are only eight coloured constables in the Cambridgeshire force of 1,140. But Mr Kane says he will not reduce entrance qualifications.

Inquest award

The chief constable of Merseyside, Mr Kenneth Oxford, was ordered in the High Court in London yesterday to pay legal costs of more than £30,000 incurred by four police officers at the inquest in 1980 on Jimmy Kelly, aged 54, a labourer, who died in police custody.

Body in lake

The police have started a murder inquiry after the body of a woman was found on Wednesday tied with rope and trussed in a plastic sheet at the bottom of Wast Water, Cumbria, England's deepest lake.

Extradition plea

Ernest Kirkwood, who faces a double murder charge in the United States, was refused leave to appeal yesterday by the House of Lords appeal committee against the dismissal of his plea for a writ of habeas corpus delaying extradition.

MP wins action

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, Labour MP for Birmingham, Perry Barr, accepted undisclosed libel damages at the High Court in London yesterday in settlement of his action over a report in the *Daily Express* accusing him of hypocrisy in buying a council flat.

Meat trader is cleared in perjury trial

Graham Vaughan, a meat trader, walked free from the Central Criminal Court yesterday cleared of deliberately scuttling a ship laden with corned beef in a £1m insurance swindle.

Mr Vaughan, aged 40, said he was now bankrupt. The man who had a £500,000 home in Esher, Surrey, and drove a Rolls-Royce with personalized number plates, said: "I owe nearly £300,000.

"I would like to pay every farthing I owe. But I don't see how it's possible." The case, he said, had lost him his home, parts of his family and a lot of money.

Mr Vaughan bought a consignment of corned beef for £94,000 seven years ago.

In 1979, he exported the meat to Cyprus. He insured the cargo with a Lloyd's syndicate for £1m – more than ten times what he paid for it – by telling lies, Mr Green alleged.

After various other deals fell through, said Mr Green, Mr Vaughan arranged for the corned beef to be loaded onto an old Greek ship. This was then deliberately scuttled.

Mr Vaughan, of Ridgeway, Wimbledon, was cleared of perjury and of two charges of obtaining pecuniary advantages by deception.

Glue sniffers outside drink law, say judges

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

A person found intoxicated from glue-sniffing cannot be charged with the offence of being drunk and disorderly, two High Court judges ruled yesterday.

In a decision that will strengthen the case for a reform of the law, Lord Justice Goff, sitting with Mr Justice Mann, said the offence could not apply where the intoxication was a substance other than alcohol.

He dismissed an application by a prosecutor, Mr John Neale, against a decision last April by magistrates in Wells, Somerset. They had acquitted a young person of being guilty, while drunk, of disorderly behaviour.

The Magistrates' Association and Justices' Clerks' Society have urged a reform of the law on drunkenness so that police would have power to detain glue-sniffers.

Mr Brian Harris, clerk to Poole justices and former president of the Justices' Clerks' Society, said yesterday: "The decision is undoubtedly right against the background of the Licensing Act. But what we now need is legislation to extend the meaning of drunkenness to include intoxicatiom from other causes."

Mrs Peggy Marsh (left) and Mother Janet.

Court clears prioress

A prioress was cleared by a court yesterday of harassment. Mother Janet, Mother Superior of the Convent of the Order of the Holy Paraclete at Sneaton Castle, near Whitby, North Yorkshire, had pleaded not guilty at Whitby Magistrates' Court to cutting main services to Mrs Peggy Marsh, a widow, aged 67, and unlawfully depriving her of residential occupation.

It was allege by Mr Tony Rylands, for Mrs Marsh, that water and electricity in accommodation where Mrs Marsh had been living were cut off in mid-December. She had gone there for a few days last November, and, after breaking a finger decided to stay on for treatment at a local hospital.

Before Christmas Mrs Marsh was invited to supper with the nuns who launched a verbal attack on her to get her out of the accommodation, he said.

PARLIAMENT March 1 1984

A320 airbus gets £250m launch aid from Government

INDUSTRY

Government launch aid of £200m had been agreed with British Aerospace for the A320 European airbus, **Mr Norman Tebbit**, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, announced in a statement to the Commons. As a result of the agreement, he understood that British Aerospace would now join its partners in formally lanuching the airbus programme.

He explained that Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Industry, would be meeting his French, German and Spanish colleagues shortly to endorse this.

British Aerospace would also proceed, without Government assistance, with the ATP (advanced truboprop) aircraft without Government assistance. That, said Mr Tebbit, was a tribute to the comapny and testimony to the fact that the launch aid for the A320 was adequate.

Mr Tebbit, in his statement, said that last November the Government had announced launch aid of £70m to assist with the development of the E4 version of the Rolls-Royce RB211-535 engine now powering all Boeing 757s in airline service. Earlier this month, approval had been given for Rolls-Royce to participate in the V2500 project, and to collaborate with General Electric of the USA on larger civil engines.

These programmes (he continued) represent the core of a civil engine strategy based on international collaboration and dedicated to commercial success. The House will be informed when launch aid arrangements for the V2500 are finalised but as with the E4 scheme the Government will expect a real return on the taxpayer's investment.

In September 1982 launch aid of £41m to assist Westland was agreed for their W30 civil helicopter and last month the Government announced £60m in launch aid towards Westland's civil costs in the Anglo-Italian EH101 project for a helicopter for civil and naval use in the 1990s and beyond.

These investments will help to bring Westland into the expanding civil market and will be repayable with a return in real terms by a levy on sales.

British Aerospace have now decided to participate in the A320 programme and to launch the ATP. The Government have reached agreement with British Aerospace on the terms of launch aid for the A320. Launch aid of up to £250m repayable on terms designed to yield a return in real terms on the Government's investment has now been agreed.

Taken together, these decisions expressed a clear commitment by the Government to support the efforts of the aerospace sector to maintain its position as an internationally competitive industry for the future. I believe the House will welcome our determinations to see this sector of British industry, management and production workforce alike, given the chance to succeed.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, after welcoming the airbus decision, asked: What led him to conclude that the £430m which was what British Aerospace quite seriously and deliberately were asking for, could be met by an offer of £250m? Where is the additional £180m to come from? The German contribution is to be backed up to 90 per cent of the cost by the German government.

Is he not concerned that if British Aerospace has to scrape the barrel of its resources to find this additional money, it could prejudice their prospects in going ahead with the ATP aircraft for which he tells us there is to be no Government assistance?

He is clearly going to have rewrite the section of the public expenditure White Paper dealing with that part of the department's expenditure for engines and airframes which was nil for 1984/85 and minus in the year thereafter. Obviously some adjustment is necessary.


Carter-Jones: Ensure engine is acceptable

I assume that while he has set forth his views on the future of British civil aviation he has left aside, for the time being only, those important military projects about which we hope to hear from him sooner rather than later.

Mr Tebbit: We worked very closely with British Aerospace looking at their costings and the various assumptions made and seeing how we could provide backing through the launch aid in the manner which was most effective. That has been done and has enabled us to find that British Aerospace is happy to launch on the basis of £250m of launch aid.

It is a tribute to our vigorous private sector that it requires less assistance from the Government than the French or Germans. Yes, the lines in the White Paper relating to my department will clearly have to be amended to cover this project but total expenditure agreed for the Government will not increase.

Wilkinson: BA confidence in Rolls engines

I share his hopes that we will be able to see some of the military aircraft programmes go ahead as well, but I hope he will direct that question to the Secretary of State for Defence (Mr Michael Heseltine) when the times comes.

Mr Bruce Millan (Glasgow, Govan, Lab): Since Roll-Royce engines did not succeed in penetrating the earlier airbus, is it a condition of this help to the A320, or at least is there an understanding, that the V2500 engine will be available for the A320 and what are the respective timescales involved?

Mr Tebbit: I have spoken about this to my French and German colleagues. There is little doubt that the engine will be the one demanded by most customers for the A320.

Mr John Wilkinson (Ruislip and Northwood, C): We are on the threshold of a historic opportunity which should not be missed. Would he ensure that adequate launch aid is available for the V2500, since British Airways, probably the most prospective customer for the A320, have always expressed confidence in Rolls engines?

Mr Tebbit: Indeed. Rolls-Royce have already announced their intention of going ahead with the V2500 programme. It is just a matter of the details of financing which are to be agreed. The fact that Rolls-Royce have felt able to go ahead indicates their confidence.

Mr Barry Jones (Alwyn and Deeside, Lab): There will be relief and pleasure in the British Aerospace works in my constituency where 4,000 workers are employed. Can he guarantee that my constituents will get a fair share of the airbus A320 work?

Mr Tebbit: They will be able to stake their claim for a proper share of the work on this aircraft.

Mr Lewis Carter-Jones (Eccles, Lab): Would he make sure that the V2500 is acceptable to the A320 without modification?

Mr Tebbit: I hope that British airlines will find the A320 the best on offer and that the Rolls-Royce engine will be the best to put on it.

Now that the engine has been formally launched the consortium is entering into discussions with industry with a view to ensuring that the engine is on offer on the A320 from the beginning of the project.

Minister to have talks with FA officials

SOCCER RIOTS

The shame, disgrace and revulsion felt by the House of Commons at yesterday's behaviour by English soccer followers in France was expressed in a Commons statement by Mr Neil Macfarlane, Minister for Sport. He said he would discuss the incidents with Football Association representatives tomorrow (Friday).

Mr John Cunningham, Opposition spokesman on the environment, suggested in his reaction to the statement that the National Front was behind the incidents and had organized the attendance of their members.

Mr Macfarlane replied that he did not know whether minority groups were concerned but that he wanted to find out.

In his statement, Mr Macfarlane said that his officials would be holding further discussions to assess the extent of the damage caused by the disturbances.

Pre-match planning for the game by the Government, the football authorities and the French football and law and order authorities had been particularly extensive.

He had written to the French minister with responsibility for sport on February 10, stressing the need for adequate policing in and outside the stadium, and the need to deter offenders by resolute action by the police and courts.

Representatives of the English FA had vistied Paris in January and met representatives of the French football authorities, the French police and the British embassy. Arrangements had been made for control of ticket sales, crowd segregation, sale of alcohol, supporter travel routes and policing.

The European agreement on hooliganism, reached last year on his initiative, was a major and constructive document reflecting the positive action and intention of Government to do all within its power to combat hooliganism.

We are confident (he said) that proper and effective implementation of the measures contained in the agreement would greatly reduce the problems.

He had asked the French minister for sport for a full report of the incidents and would meet the chairman and secretary of the Football Association tomorrow (Friday) afternoon for discussions.

I shall be conducting a full appraisal of the incidents with the parties concerned (he said). I shall need to establish whether, the measures agreed by European ministers were fully implemented on the day.

I fully intend to continue to urge all concerned to do everything possible to get rid of these mindless louts and to urge European countries to use stringent penalties against convicted offenders to act as a deterrent.

Mr Cunningham: Everyone in Britain and particularly all those who hold our national game of football in affection and who in the widest sense value the reputation of this country must recoil in horror from yesterday's events in France, not only in the French stadium but regrettably, elsewhere throughout the country.

Were not yesterday's events foreshadowed by the attitude and information from the Football Association who acted responsibly by refusing to sell tickets unchecked to other than registered fans and authorized travel agents?

The FA themselves are not, in our view, to blame for what happened.

Is it true that the National Front was behind much of the ugly violence we witnessed and is it also true that they deliberately organized for their members to attend this match in force?

Since 1980 we have seen similar events perpetrated by English soccer followers – not Irish, Welsh of Scottish – in Denmark, Holland, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Italy and now France.

It is clear that Government initiatives in this matter are failing.

Were the special arrangements he negotiated with the police and other authorities carried out as he requested, and what liaison, if any, took place with the French authorities.

Is it not time to prevent these hooligans travelling abroad to besmirch the reputation of soccer. We need a new initiative and tougher controls to prevent innocent travellers and decent football fans and our European neighbours not only being insulted but injured. It demonstrates that we are dealing, not with sports policy or football, but a matter of public order. The Home Secretary should take charge of events.

Mr Macfarlane said that he did not know whether a minority group had been concerned in the incident but wanted to find out.

There had been the closest cooperation between the two police authorities on this side of the Channel and the other: British Transport Police had escorted fans on the trains to Dover and no alcohol had been on sale. At the request of the master of the French vessel taking them to France, the BT police had accompanied them across the Channel. The bars on the ship had been closed, but there had been some trouble on board. The ship was met by French police.

He was not apportioning blame, but they were dealing with 1 per cent, or perhaps fewer who disrupted the enjoyment of 99 per cent.


Pendry: There are no instant solutions

Sir Hector Monro (Dumfries, C): Would he bear in mind the Scottish system under which drink is banned from football grounds?

Mr Macfarlane: The document drafted in Rotterdam touched upon that and not only stressed the importance of segregating rival supporters in the stadium and ensuring that tickets were controlled on the day of the match.

Mr Thomas Pendry (Stalybridge and Hyde, Lab): Most genuine football supporters recognize his difficulties and recognize there are no instant solutions. He should convene a special conference of bodies supporting football to give the minister an all round view of the problem.

Mr Macfarlane: I would be grateful for any contributions interested bodies could make. Many conferences have taken place with the leading authorities in police and football and in many respects they have been successful, but this is still causing problems.

Mr John Page (Harrow West, C): There is nothing else it is conceivable for any government to do to improve the situation, therefore would it not be right to stop all attendances by fans at football matches abroad until a proper sense of decent behaviour as recognized at the football matches in this country?

Mr Macfarlane: I and other European sports ministers must ensure that there is effective implementation of what has already been agreed. The legislation we passed in 1981 had the football hooligan very much in mind.

Mr Clement Freud (North East Cambridgeshire, L): The television pictures showed that the French police acted with needless violence which can only have exacerbated the violence.

Mr Macfarlane: The deployment of the French police is not my responsibility and they were only deployed in the way proposed by the ministers for sport when discussing this last year.

Sir Geoffrey Finsberg (Hampstead and Highgate, C): We heard that the British Transport Police accompanied the train and that these scum broke up some of the fittings on the ship and then damaged British cars awaiting distribution. Why did not the police not liaise with their French counterparts to stop these characters from landing?

Mr Macfarlane: That is one of the things I will want to look at closely. I am assured by the Football Association there was close collaboration between the police on both sides of the Channel.

Mr William Benyon (Milton Keynes, C): We shall never get on top of this problem, at home or abroad, until the perpetrators are sent to prison. Fining them does no good at all.

Mr Macfarlane: He is right. That is why I was pleased to have the support of the other European ministers at Rotterdam to encourage the authorities to impose severe sentences.

● During questions to the Prime Minister, **Sir Paul Bryan** (Boothferry, C) asked Mrs Thatcher: How many more years will our neighbours on the Continent have to suffer violence to their people and ther cities?

How much longer have we got to suffer this disgrace before the Government takes direct responsibility at the highest level for taking steps to end this situation?

Mrs Thatcher: MPs on all sides of the house would condemn the appalling behaviour of a small minority of the visitors to France which I believe disgraces our country's name abroad.

We must all make the strongest efforts to make sure these appalling incidents do not happen again.

● After **Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone**, the Lord Chancellor, had repeated the statement in the House of Lords, adding that those involved brought "great discredit on the sport and our nation", he was asked by **Lord Paget of Northampton** (Lab): Will he cast his mind back to 1921 when he attended an Eton and Harrow match at Lords wearing top hats and wielding sticks? (Laughter) We descended on the pitch and the police intervened and suppressed it.

He suggested the same deterrent could be used now

Lord Hailsham said he remembered 1921.

I was (he said) a perfectly innocent witness on that occasion. The worst that happened, so far as I can remember, was that top hats were stamped and jumped upon (Laughter) I do not think there were any casualties.

He added that this was the last occasion this happened.

People realized (he said) that there was no justification for behaviour of that kind and that it brought great discredit on those who participated and those associated with them. The parents of the fellows concerned and the school authorities conveyed that message quite sharply to those who could be identified.

Pensioners' demands would cost £15,000m

PM's QUESTIONS

The proposals of the National Pensioners Convention for pensions increases would cost £15,000m, adding £24.30 a week to national insurance contributions for those on average male earnings. **Mrs Margaret Thatcher**, the Prime Minister, said during question time exchanges in the Commons.

She was replying to **Mr Neil Kinnock**, the Leader of the Opposition, who had referred to a meeting Mrs Thatcher was shortly to have with a deputation from the convention.

When she sees Mr Jack Jones and his colleagues (said Mr Kinnock) will she be undertaking to scrap the fuel price increases and the housing benefit cuts?

Mrs Thatcher: No.

Mr Kinnock: That is disgraceful, especially since if Mrs Thatcher had not got rid of the link between pensions and earnings single pensioners would be £1.20 a week better off now and a married couple would be £2.50 better off. When is she going to stop filching from the pensioners in this way?

Mrs Thatcher: Housing benefit will cost £3,700m a year and goes to seven million households. The special fuel allowance is some £360m of which some £200m goes to pensioners. Both figures are vastly in excess of any by the Labour Government.

Mr Kinnock: In many, many respects what she alleges simply is not true in her comparisons with the last Government. Does she in any case think that the pensioners' convention would be coming to see her, or demonstrating in London today, or constantly urging upon all MPs that they need bigger pensions, if they thought what Mrs Thatcher was providing was anything like enough?

Mrs Thatcher: I am not sure which figures Mr Kinnock is challenging, and I doubt whether he knows either. (Laughter).

The proposals of the convention for pensions increases would cost over £15,000m. That would add £24.30 a week to national insurance contributions for those on average male earnings.

Mr Kinnock is usually taking me to task for actually increasing national insurance contributions: now he is proposing to put it up on the working population by an intolerable amount. Does Mr Kinnock challenge any of those figures? (Conservative laughter and shouts of "game, set and match").

● In reply to **Mr Douglas Hoyle** (Warrington, North, Lab), Mrs Thatcher acknowledged that new unemployment figures were disappointing, but pointed out that although the seasonally adjusted figure was up, the raw figure was down.

Some 300,000 people a month came off the unemployment register. Between January and February, she said, 338,000 people became unemployed and the numbers leaving unemployment were 346,000.

Majority of staff have now signed

GCHQ DISPUTE

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in the Commons at question time, that she was grateful to the overwhelming majority of the staff at the Government Communications Headquarters Cheltenham, for signing the necessary forms relinquishing their right to belong to a trade union.

The decission (she said) was urged upon us by the management of GCHQ. It was welcomed by some, but I realise it caused difficulty for others. I am very grateful to the overwhelming majority who signed the form at GCHQ – they are well in excess of 90 per cent.

She was replying to **Sir Anthony Meyer** (Clwyd North West, C) who asked her to accept the admiration of the nation for the courage and determination with which she had won a great victory at Cheltenham. (Labour laughter).

In its way (he added) it was no less significant than the victory which she won in the South Atlantic. Does she agree that the fruits of both victories will endure if she now showed a spirit of conciliation to the vanquished of both these issues?

Mr James Hamilton (Motherwell North, Lab): Will she reflect on the decision of the Government over GCHQ? If she will not take note of what was said to her by the TUC, will she take note of the many Tory MPs who have disagreed with her policy, particularly Mr Edward Heath?

Mrs Thatcher: I hope I have answered that before. There were differing views. I am grateful to those who signed. I believe the decision was right.

Shipyard requiring less in state subsidies

ULSTER

Work carried out by Harland and Wolff on the Falklands floating port contract had enabled a £2.2m reduction to be made in assistance to the company in 1983-84, **Mr Adam Butler**, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, said when he moved approval of the Draft Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order.

He explained that £43m was to be issued out of the Consolidated Fund of Northern Ireland in respect of the spring supplementary estimates. This brought the total estimate provision for 1983-84 to just over £2,772m.

Mr Butler said Harland and Wolff did a first class job on the Falklands floating port, despite some extremely adverse weather conditions, and created a good impression with potential customers, including the Ministry of Defence.

This (he said) is most encouraging: and although their demands on public money remain high, it is most encouraging to see Harland and Wolff taking effective action to reduce their dependence on subsidies.

Although the Northern Ireland economic scene was far from rosy, all was not gloom.

To this end it was important to encourage investment by improving the image of the Province and getting away from the false picture given by the terrorist activity.

Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, said unemployment in Northern Ireland was now more than 122,000, of whom more than 56,000 had been unemployed for a year or more.

Since being set up, Enterprise Ulster had employed more than 10,000 people and over half had gone into regular employment; 61 per cent of its budget was now spent directly on wages and salaries, most for those who would otherwise be on the dole.

Mr Butler intervened to say Enterprise Ulster had a good record, but he had to ensure the available resources went as far as possible and were put to the best use.

In its first year, it employed nearly 2,000 people. But for the same funds in real terms the action for community employment scheme provided jobs for 4,000 people. The provision for Enterprise Ulster would be £7m.

Help for less-favoured areas

FARMING

About 28,000 British farmers in the less favoured areas would be eligible for higher capital grants, **Mr Michael Jopling**, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, told the Commons in reporting that the EEC Council of Agriculture Ministers had agreed to extend the areas which qualifed for enhanced rates of capital grant.

Mr Edward du Cann (Taunton, C) said he had never known a time since he became an MP when morale in the farming industry had been so low, nor when there had been such apprehension about the future.

In Mr Jopling's future negotiations on prices (he continued) will he take as the starting point that it is essential to the British economy that we always maintain a prosperous and effective British agriculture?

Mr Jopling said he knew of the uncertainty in agriculture. He had urged a decision on restructure of the common agricultural policy as soon as possible to end as much as he could of the uncertainty.

But there is (he said) grave overproduction and overspending on the budget and we have to do something about it.

Mr Jopling said later that he was not yet sure when payments would start in the marginal areas of the capital grant rates for the high hills. He thought it would be in the next financial year. The hill land compensatory amounts would be eligible for payment from January 1, 1985.

For farmers wishing to appeal against exclusion from the less favoured area classification, he would announce later the representation procedure.

Shinwell complains about smoking ban

HOUSE OF LORDS

Lord Shinwell, who is 99-years-old, told the House of Lords at question time that he was becoming "a bit aggravated" by questions aimed at "interfering with a civilized existence".

This followed a question by the **Earl of Kinnoull** (C) urging the Government to encourage transport authorities to ban smoking on buses.

Lord Glenarthur, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said it was a matter for the bus operators, taking full account of public opinion whether to implement such a ban.

The Government (he added) welcomes the trend towards further restrictions on smoking in buses.

The Earl of Kinnoull: It was a national no smoking day yesterday and certain unnamed peers seemed blissfully ignorant of that fact. (Laughter).

Lord Glenarthur: I would not like to be the person to turn to the Deputy Chief Whip (the Earl of Swinton) and say that he has just smoked his last cigar. (Laughter).

Lord Shinwell: I am the last person to prevent any member asking a question, but I am becoming a bit aggravated by questions which aim at interfering with a civilized existence. (Laughter and cheers).

Only the other day they tried to prevent members of the police force taking a drink occasionally. Now they want to stop smoking on buses. I never travel on a bus – I have the opportunity of using a car – but this is going a bit too far.

Some people want to stop this place going on. That is another example of aggravation. Lord Kinnoull often asks sensible questions but on this occasion it is completely uncivilized. (Laughter).

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Timetable Motion on the Rating and Valuation (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill.

Tuesday: Debate on Expenditure White Paper.

Wednesday: Agricultural Holding Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Debate on estimates in relation to the NHS and the coal industry.

Friday: Private Member's motion

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, committee.

Tuesday: Housing and Building Control Bill, committe

Wednesday: Debates on women's opportunities privatization; and on Vaccine Damage Payment Act.

Thursday: Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Bill, report.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on private Member's motion on the provision of homes.

Commissioner repudiated

FOOD PRICES

The Government does not consider the EEC Commission's proposals for a revaluation of the green pound to be justified, **Mr Michael Jopling**, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said during Commons questions.

Mr Michael Colvin (Romsey and Waterside, C): In view of the sharp fall in farm incomes in 1983, will he reject any other proposals that are likely to damage the competitiveness of British agriculture?

Will he deny reports in the press that No. 10 considers farmers to be a privileged sector of the economy and confirm once and for all that if only the rest of British industry has done half as well, we would have nothing to worry about in this country?

Mr Joplin: I repudiate the notion that the Government is mounting a compaign to undermine the capacity and the confidence of the agricultural community.

Dr Mark Hughes, an Opposition Spokeman on agriculture, (City of Durham, Lab): Does he accept the figure of Mr Christopher Tugendhat, EEC Commissioner, that food prices have been 5 per cent higher than they would otherwise need to be as a sonsequence of monetary compensation amounts.

Mr Jopling: I do repudiate the figure given by Mr Tugendhat also the food prices. I believe it is wrong. I reject the suggestion that the green pound is being used as a food tax.

£36m cost of military bands

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

The Government is spending more than £36m a year on the upkeep of military bands – more than a third of the Art's Council's total budget.

The figure was disclosed in a parliamentary reply to Mr Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West, the former chairman of the GLC arts and recreation committee.

Mr Banks said yesterday: "This indicates the absurd level of values the Government has got, in spending so heavily on military bands when it is cutting back on arts expenditure through the abolition of the GLC and the metropolitan authorities".

The parliamentary reply reveals that £25.4m a year goes to the Army, which has about 2,500 band members in 78 bands. The Royal Marines, with 418 members in nine bands, get £8.1m, and the Royal Air Force, with 266 members in five bands, gets £2.85m.

Murder appeal

Norman Smith the computer student found guilty of murdering Miss Susan Renhard in the Derbyshire Peak District, is to appeal against his conviction.

Alliance victories in council by-elections

By Richard Evans

This year has seen Alliance success in local government by-elections at the expense of Conservatives and Labour.

A survey of council by-election results for January and February published in this week's *New Statesman* shows that the Liberals and SDP continue to attract far more support than opinion polls suggest and are winning seats from their two opponents.

Out of 34 contests the Liberals made four net gains and the SDP three, particularly encouraging for the SDP which has tended to fall behind its Alliance partner in winning seats.

Apart from achieving a victory in Plymouth, parliamentary base of Dr David Owen, SDP leader, the party also made gains on Warwickshire and Northumberland county councils, in the latter case depriving Labour of an overall majority.

The survey also discloses that the Conservatives, who fell behind Labour in the last quarter of 1983 after the election of Mr Neil Kinnock as leader have regained a four point lead.

The slight slump in Labour's fortunes can be partly explained by the special circumstances of three council seats which they lost.

In Brent, the recent ugly scenes accompanying the party's loss of control on the council had a detrimental effect.

In Southwark, the party is still suffering from the humiliating parliamentary defeat at Bermondsey last year when the Liberals romped home.

In Chesterfield, where Liberals made a much publicized gain, personal factors were *important*.

Votes in the 27 by-elections where Conservative, Labour, and Alliance candidates stood.

Cons	23,534	36.6%
Lab	21,040	32.7%
Lib/SDP	19,355	30.1%
Others	450	0.7%

Results of the 34 by-elections in Jan and Feb

Party	Seats defended	Lost	Gained	New held
Con	15	5	2	12
Lab	14	5	1	10
Lib	3	1	5	7
SDP	0	0	3	3
Ind	2	1	1	2

Voting for three-way contests in October, November and December.

Labour 33.7%
Conservative 33.1%
Alliance 31.4%

Call for law on rear seat belts

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

Rear-seat belts in cars could save over two more lives a day and help to shorten waiting lists for hip transplants and hernias, the *British Medical Journal* said yesterday.

Legislation making the wearing of seat belts compulsory in the front seats of cars has been "a remarkable success story", the journal says in a leading article.

In the first eight months after legislation came into effect fatal and serious injuries fell by a quarter, a saving of 350 lives and 4,500 serious injuries.

The estimated overall saving on treating accident victims in the first year is likely to be about £120m – enough money to run four health districts for a year.

Adding rear-seat belts to the legislation could save the lives of about 135 rear-seat passengers in cars.

In addition, about 6 per cent of those fatally injured in the front seats of cars are injured by rear-seat passengers being thrown forward as missiles in crashes, and the provision of rear seat belts would allow an easy and cheap solution to carrying children safely in the back seat.

هكذا من الأصل

Radioactive contamination of Sellafield beaches increasing, survey shows

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Evidence of a continuing increase in radioactive contamination of beaches and seas round the Sellafield nuclear waste processing plant in Cumbria has provoked fresh demands for tough government action.

The call came from MPs, trade unions, and Greenpeace, which last autumn discovered an accidental leak from Sellafield (formerly Windscale) during a protest that attempted to block a waste discharge pipe from Sellafield.

The plea to suspend all further discharges from the plant until a full independent inquiry has assessed the dangers and damage from the operations of British Nuclear Fuels, plant comes after a report published yesterday.

Prepared by the National Radiological Protection Board, it says radioactive waste is still being washed up on beaches around Sellafield. An initial drop in the amount of contaminated material being found has not continued.

The report concludes that if no solution is found within the next month or so "the possibility of further action to clean the beaches should be considered."

The company is considering the report, which comes only two weeks after a reorganization of the board of British Nuclear Fuels and management of the Sellafield plant after two other government reports rebuked the company over leaks.

An accident at discharge last November is being investigated by the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Efforts to cut radioactive discharges into the sea have been taken by the company and engineering modifications have been accelerated to ensure that it is impossible to repeat the last accident.

People have been warned to keep off the beaches near Sellafield. The new report says contaminated material continues to be found on beaches and estuaries and salt marshes.

Three possible explanations are offered by the scientists of the National Radiological Protection Board for the temporary fall in the discovery of new radioactive wastes.

They are that new releases have been made from the plant; contaminated material already on the beach has been uncovered by winds and tide and that the prevailing weather has been ideal for bringing contaminated in the sea to shore.

If the source of fresh pollution is caused by a reservoir of material in the sea, then only continued monitoring and removal of samples when they reach the shore or are observed beforehand will gradually eliminate the contamination.

The reports adds that the occurrence of a high proportion of tar-like contaminated debris in the last week of the survey, up to February 13, suggests there is a new source of contaminated items.

The report says the actual contact dose rates from these materials could be about 100 times higher than apparent readings on monitoring instruments. Someone could pick up an item and hold it for a sufficiently long time to sustain an appreciable dose to the skin.

Ten groups join 'access to files' campaign

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A campaign to give people the right to see files held on them by doctors, hospitals, social workers, local authorities and others was launched by 10 organizations in London yesterday.

Under the umbrella of the newly formed "1984 Campaign for Freedom of Information", *groups such as Shelter, Mind,* the Patients' Association, and the National Council for Civil Liberties have joined ranks in an effort to change the law.

They are backing Mr Des Wilson, the 1984 campaign chairman, who is spearheading the lobby to give individuals a statutory right of access to files or records held on them and have a right to have inaccuracies corrected.

The groups will be supporting an "access to personal files" Bill shortly to be introduced in the Commons by Mr Christopher Smith, Labour MP for Islington South and Finsbury, which would provide for such a statutory right.

The campaign wants parents and students over 16 to have access to their reports and records, "clients" of the social services to be able to inspect files kept on them by social workers, and patients to be able to see doctors' and hospital records.

Tenants of local authority housing and those on council waiting lists should also have a right of access to their files, they say.

Announcing the publication of a 10,000-word dossier containing case histories of injustices that have arisen from inaccurate personal files, Mr Wilson said: "The number of personal files is massive and the scope for inaccuracy and injustice so considerable that it has to be assumed that it occurs on a daily basis".

There was no guarantee, he said, whether file entries were fact or fiction.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour leader, raising a top hat in an impromptu dance with a member of the Age Exchange Theatre Company at the pensioners' rally.

Pensioners rally to war cry

By David Nickolson-Lord

Prolonged and bitter condemnation of government policy towards people aged over 65 came at the fifth national pensioners' rally in London yesterday.

More than 1,000 delegates were called on to recreate the wartime spirit of the fight against Hitler before moving on to a mass lobby of Parliament in support of a pension *increase.*

Leaders of the British Pensioners and Trade Unions Action Association, an umbrella grouping with strong TUC links, later saw Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, and Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, before visiting Mrs Magaret Thatcher in Downing Sreet.

The delegation, including Mr Jack Jones, the former trade union leader who is the association's president, called for an immediate £8.75 increase in the single person's pension *and £13.25 for a married* couple.

The pensioners say that that is the amount they have lost since 1979 by the failure to keep pace with inflation and tax changes.

Mr Jones was cheered loudly *at the convention, held in the* Central Hall, Westminster, when he described the 3.7 per cent pension increase last November as "an insult".

Mr Raymond Buckton, TUC president, said: "It is a disgrace to this country that pensioners should have to meet every year to lobby Parliament. What we should be doing is meeting every year to share friendship and enjoy ourselves."

Saboteurs advised to dress up as anglers

By Hugh Clayton

Hunt saboteurs are advised to disguise themselves as anglers when they try to disrupt fishing matches. The advice comes in the latest tactics booklet issued to the 3,000 members of the Hunt Saboteurs Association.

The association's decision to try to sabotage activities of the millions who go fishing as well as the 200,000 who hunt was disclosed in *The Times* last year.

Mr John Hale, the association's tactics officer, says in his latest advice that members who dress as fishermen should use weighted, unbreakable lines without hooks. "Take up a position as close as you can get to a real angler", he says. "Then keep on casting every few minutes with a big splash about four yards away from his float."

Despite a split which led to the resignation of some of its officers last year, the association is now firmly committed to sabotaging fishing as well as hunting and coursing.

The ruling committee makes clear in a bulletin to members that it has rejected the argument that attacks on angling will destroy Labour Party support for the abolition of hunting. The Labour manifesto for the last general election included a commitment to abolish hunting live prey with hounds.

The committee believes that Labour will probably drop its anti-hunting pledge whether the association disrupts fishing or not. "There is also little doubt that if and when the Labour Party drops its commitment to abolish bloodsports the association and its decision to campaign against angling will be wrongly blamed."

Mr Hale reports that one saboteur in the West Midlands has delayed anglers on the river bank by *engaging them in long* conversations about fishing. But Mr Hale favours disruption with sonic devices placed under water.

Right of training for all workers urged

By Our Education Correspondent

All adults in work should have a right to training in the same way as the French have by law and the Germans have by collective agreement, Mr John Cassels, director general of the National Economic Development Office, said yesterday.

There is a growing need for higher skills and competence in industry with the disappearance, in some cases at a startling speed, of less skilled jobs, he told the annual meeting of the Association of Colleges for Further and Higher Education in London.

It was important to ensure that *vocational education* and training met the needs of employers and individuals. More effort had to be switched to innovation, and good communication between colleges, employers and trade unions had to be established through "local user groups".

"I think we have a very long way to go before learning is delivered to the customer in the way that realy best meets the customers' needs," he said. "I am convinced that with ingenuity and imagination, colleges can open up many more flexible and accessible learning opportunities to the individual.

"The pace is being forced not by the arbitrary will of government or the Manpower Services *Commission or anybody else* but essentilly by the pressure of international competition and the pace of technology change.

Edinburgh theatre proposed

A 1,500-seat theatre that *could stage Broadway musicals* or the grandest continental opera was proposed yesterday for the notorious "hole in the ground" site on Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, (Ronald Faux writes).

The ruling Conservative group on Edinburgh District Council has produced the plan. It will cost £14m which, the group says is less than half the cost of the last scheme for developing the site.

The group hopes that £2m will be raised by sponsorship and the rest of the cost divided between the council and the Government which had agreed to fund half of the original scheme.

Sixty key terms that budding historians must understand

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The school inspectors (HMIs) are expected to publish a document shortly on the teaching of history in school that will list 60 key historical terms which pupils aged 14 to 16 should know and which will emphasize the role of the history teacher in dealing with controversial issues.

The document, to be entitled *History 5 to 16*, is being written by Mr John Slater, staff inspector for history, who says that seven issues are indispensable to the study of contemporary history.

They are urban development, changing patterns of employment and unemployment, the multicultural society, the changing status of women, the impact of science and technology, global interdependence, and the open society. He argues that history has to deal with the issues over which society is divided. That itself is a controversial statement with *which some people might* disagree.

The publication of an HMI document on history comes at a time when Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is taking an interest in the subject. Earlier this month he said an element of national history should be part of every pupil's education up to the age of 16.

He said: "An element of national – by which I emphatically do not mean nationalistic history – is and inescapable part of any balanced school history course.



Sir Keith: History 'inescapable'.

"History is indispensable to understanding the society we live in to an awareness by pupils of the place of themselves, their families or communities in the developing story of the nation, a story which itself involves other nationals and peoples".

The inspectorate does not disagree with Sir Keith. Mr Slater said: "Note the minister stressed understanding of shared values, not their acceptance."

Left-wing educationists are, however, critical of Sir Keith's words on this issue, saying that they are bound up with teaching patriotism and rest on the unspoken assumption of the glory of English institutions, government, and politics.

The document will spell out what the inspectors think history is, what its objectives and functions are, and will raise some of the issues involved in teaching it.

Amount of derelict land growing despite grants

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

There is more derelict land in England than in 1974 despite government spending of more than £100m on reclamation, an official survey has shown.

Although land has been reclaimed at about 2,000 hectares a year, factory and other closures in the recession have created much more dereliction in some areas.

There were 45,683 hectares of derelict land in England in 1982, compared with 43,273 hectares in 1974.

Ministers have reserved £74m for reclaiming derelict land in the coming financial year, compared with £75m in 1983-84. Some of the money is paid only when industry agrees to meet most of the cost.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said on Tuesday that the Government was to pay £15m in the coming year towards immediate private development of land reclaimed by councils. He added that the private sector was expected to contribute more than £80m.

"The survey shows that between 1974 and 1982 in England 17,000 hectares were restored to beneficial use", Mr Jenkin added in a parliamentary written reply. "This represents the equivalent of 50 per cent of the derelict land identified in 1974 as worth reclamation."

Survey of Derelict Land (Room C 13, Department of the Environment, Marsham Street, London SW1: £5.90 [summary free].

Derelict land in England

	1974 (in hectares)	1982
North	9,411	7,307
North-west	8,015	10,042
Yorks and Humberside	5,451	5,431
W Midlands	4,667	5,787
E Midlands	5,171	5,198
E Anglia	1,783	804
S West	6,415	6,635
Gtr London	324	1,954
Rest of SE.	2,036	2,525

Cambridge to reform admissions

By Paul Flather of the *Times Educational Supplement*

Cambridge University colleges are to follow Oxford and study changes in the ways they admit undergraduates in an effort to produce a simpler and fairer system.

One scheme to be investigated would involve using the present S-level (scholarship level) examination, which can be taken simultaneously with A levels, as equivalent to the special Cambridge entrance examination.

College tutorial representatives are meeting today to finalize the terms of reference for a new working party, headed by the vice-chancellor, Sir John Butterfield, to study the feasibility of moving the entrance examination to the fifth or sixth term in the sixth form.

Many tutors appear to accept that the examination taken just after A levels, the so-called seventh term entry, is about to wither away, especially as *Oxford has already abolished* the seventh term examination.

Oxford has reformed its entrance procedures so that applicants can now either tke the special examination in the fourth term of the sixth form, or be admitted on the basis of A levels, an interview and a school report.

Cambridge tutors, however, are worried that the fourth term is too early to judge potential in students. But any later test might interfere with A level work, and also worry other *universities*, who have to wait for Oxbridge to take its pick of the brightest students



Uncertainty over future of Israel treaty after Gemayel talks in Syria

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

President Gemayel of Lebanon returned to Beirut last night after holding a further four hours of what he called "excellent" talks with President Assad of Syria. But he made no formal announcement of abrogation of the unofficial peace treaty between Lebanon and Israel, and he cancelled a press conference without giving any reason soon after his last meeting with the Syrian leader.

Mr Gemayel was prepared to tear up the May 17 military withdrawal agreement with Israel, in return for some commitment by Syria that it would withdraw its Army from Lebanon when the last Israeli soldiers left the country.

It was unclear last night whether Mr Gemayel extracted such a promise from the Syrians, though Mr Assad himself appeared pleased with the talks, and Damascus Radio had broadcast all day reports of how Lebanon would be returning to its "Arab identity", a euphemism for abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli accord.

The talks in Damascus had taken place against a curious background. Overnight an American warship, the USS W. S. Sims, had fired 20 shells into the Druze-held hills above Beirut after artillery rounds had fallen near the US Ambassador's residence at Yarze. The naval bombardment, a US military spokesman later said, had been carried out "to protect American lives".

A few hours later, Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader who has demanded an end to all American naval action, turned up in Beirut for the first time in 15 months to denounce President Gemayel and to insist that the Lebanese leader be "put on trial" for ordering the Lebanese Army to shell Muslim sectors of the capital.

The Lebanese President can afford to ignore such statements, provided he really has reached an understanding with President Assad. His problem will be to sell any new agreements with Syria to his erstwhile Phalangist supporters, many of whom now feel betrayed by the Lebanese President's visit to Damascus.

Mr Gemayel's father, Pierre, the Phalange Party's founder and hitherto one of the most outspoken of the country's right-wing leaders, has surprisingly come out in support of his son's journey to Syria.

Although he had in the past praised the agreement with Israel, Mr Pierre Gemayel is now describing it as "already dead", claiming that an understanding with Syria was essential since the pact with Israel had failed to remove foreign armies from Lebanon.

French troops to leave Lebanon soon

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A withdrawal from Beirut of the 1,500 French troops – the last remaining contingent of the four-nation multinational force – is understood to be imminent after the rejection by the United Nations Security Council of the French proposal to replace the multinational force by a UN force.

Unofficial government sources here emphasized yesterday that "France alone cannot act as a substitute for the international organizations whose role it is to help reestablish peace in Lebanon". The three other members of the multinational force, Britain, the United States and Italy, have already withdrawn their forces.

The only official reaction yesterday to the UN vote was from the Foreign Office, which said that France would not take any "precipitate decision" as to the eventual withdrawal of its contingent, and that such a withdrawal take place "with dignity".

Dilemma over policing Beirut

UN seeks a way round veto

From Zoriana Pysariwsky
New York

The search for a new formula to give the United Nations an expanded role in Lebanon was under way last night after a Soviet veto in the Security Council which struck down the French initiative for a UN peacekeeping operation in Beirut.

After weeks of intensive and intricate negotiations, the Soviet Union ultimately disregarded the international consensus for a UN in Lebanon. Only the Ukrainian representatives joined Moscow in opposition. The 13 members of the council who approved the French measure vowed to try again.

Officially the Soviet Union had presented several untenable conditions for its consent to a force. In the Security Council debate, it said that the draft resolution failed to extract guarantees from the Americans that artillery shelling and reconnaissance flights from its warships off the Lebanese coast would cease before the arrival of UN troops. While the United States ultimately decide to disengage completely from the area, it would have been unseemly for it to have acceded to Moscow's dictates.

The two underlying reasons for Moscow's veto were, first, its reluctance to give the West an alternative peacekeeping force that would take away attention from the failure of its own mission. A UN force would have meant diplomatic victory for the West, a gift Moscow was not about to give away.



Soviet block: Mr Oleg Troyanovsky, Soviet ambassador, vetoing in the Security Council a UN force for Beirut.

Second, the Soviet Union had no intention of approving a measure that might interfere with its serious, calculated control of Lebanon's political and military landscape. A UN force in Moscow's eyes would at the very least give the Government of President Gemayel an unnecessary moral boost and at most provide a healing touch to perhaps an untimely recociliation.

As long as it is in Moscow's interests to oppose a UN force, it will continue to do so, the belief that it could be shamed into giving its approval proved to be a miscalculation.

Fierce fighting as Iran attacks again

By Our Foreign Staff

Iran said it had launched another offensive on the southern front of the Gulf War on Wednesday night and fierce fighting was raging in the area.

The attack had inflicted heavy casualties on Iraqi troops and a number of prisoners had been taken, the Iranian National New Agency Irna reported in a dispatch monitored in London.

It said Iranian forces had seized a strategic bridge and were erecting a 160ft bridge across a canal after achieving most of their objectives.

The agency quoted a joint staff communiqué as saying a Soviet-made Iraqi figher had been shot down. This brought to seven the number of Iraqi warplanes shot down in a week.

Iraq reported sinking seven "enemy naval targets" at the head of the Gulf yesterday as Iran announced. The surge in fighting, confirmed by Iraq, was near the southern port of Basra

An Iraqi military spokesman said the Iranians had gained footholds in three positions but were being encircled

The Iraqi military spokesman said the Iraqi Air Force and Navy attacked the seven vessels as they tried to enter the southern Iranian port of Bandar Khomeini.

● PARIS: A French Government loan to Iraq of about $500m (£125m) designed to help the war-torn country to finance civil debt repayments in 1984, was confirmed by MME Edith Cresson, the Trade Minister, yesterday. (Diana Geddes writes).

A million strike on Peru farms

Lima (AP) – More than a million farmers began a three-day strike across Peru yesterday, threatening to block food supplies to cities in protest over the Government's agricultural policies.

The strike organizer, Señor Felipe Huamán, head of the National Agrarian Confederation, (CNA), said the strike was nationwide except for 12 provinces under control of the military.

Dhaka riot

Dhaka (Reuter) – Two people, one of them a 13-year-old boy, were killed and at least 150 were injured during an eight-hour general strike called by the opponents of the Bangladesh military reqime.

Grenada pledge

St George's (AP) – President Reagan has personally assured Grenada that the United States will complete the island's international airport that Cuba was building before the US intervention.

Sect arrest

Jakarta – Peter Curtis, aged 40, an American teacher suspected of being a leading member of the Children of God Sect, has been arrested. The Indonesian Infromation Minister said further measures would be taken agaist key members of the Sect.

Out of race

Washington – Senator Ernest Hollings, of South Carolina, has dropped out of the Democratic presidential nomination after winning only 4 per cent of the vote in the New Hampshire primary.

Cop is robber

Tokyo (AP) – An assistant police inspector carrying a toy gun robbe: a bank of 10m yen (about £28,500) in cash, but he was arrested after being charged by two bank clerks. Hiroshi Nagata, aged 42, said he planned the robb:: because he could not repay a housing loan.

Smokers in a huff over ban

From Ivor Davis

One of the most radical anti-smoking measures went into effect yesterday in San Francisco government and private offices.

Despite bitter opposition, the new law states that all employers must adopt policies disigned to accommodate smoking and non-smoking employees. It stipulates that if non-smokers are not happy with arrangements provided, then companies must prohibit smoking in the office.

The aim of the legislation is to reduce the health risk and the annoyance and discomfort from tobacco smoke on workers in confined areas. The outcome of the new law and the effect it will have in offices in the city is being eagerly watched by other American cities.

Companies that violate the new measure face a maximum fine of $500 (£330) a day.

All this week businesses have been scurrying to comply with the ordinance, which officials believe will be widely accepted.

"I haven't found anyone yet who doesn't think he can work something out, notes Mr Paul Schwabacher, of the San Francisco Bureau of Environmental Health Services.

However, those opposing the new law say the measure will just open a Pandoras' Box and in many cases employees will ignore the regulation.

"It's going to be riddled with problems", predicts Blanche Streeter, co-chairman of San Franciscans against Government Intrusion, the group which spent $1.27m in a fruitless campaign to defeat the measure last year.

"The way it's written, it allows one (non-smoking) person to set office policy, no matter what the manager says", she notes, adding that it will exacerbate inter-office feuds and petty jealousies.

● GENEVA: A World Health Organization publication, released yesterday, said cigarette smoking was responsible for a million premature deaths each year.

British woman among Unita hostages

By Richard Dowden

The Red Cross in Geneva has confirmed that one of the 17 Britons kidnapped by Unita guerrillas in northern Angola and now being force-marched nearly 700 miles south is a woman, and two of the men are nearly 60 years old.

Journalists who have travelled with Unita say they get up before dawn, march until midday, rest for two hours and then march till dark trying to cover 30 or 40 miles a day.

A spokesman for Mining and Technical Services Ltd (MATS), the company which employs the Britons, said yesterday that it was not the company's intention to release the names of the hostages.

The spokesman for the International Committee for the Red Cross in Geneva said yesterday that although they has a complete list of names of the missing Britons, details of some of them were missing.

A spokesman for Intraco, the British-based company which services mining equipment in Angola, confimed that one of its engineers, Mr Tony Beer, was one of four British workers who escaped the raid last week.

Diplomatic sources confirmed yesterday that an Angola helicopter, possibly flown by a Cuban pilot, which was trying to track the guerrillas and their 77 hostages, was shot down last weekend by the guerrillas. This was in addition to a helicopter owned by Diamoang, the state-controlled diamond company, which crashed on Friday.

It is understood that the Unita guerrillas, numbering between 800 and 1,000, made two separate raids on the mining centre and appeared well informed about its layout.

They destroyed the diamond sorting house, the prospecting house and several houses and pieces of mining equipment.

There were some casualties among diamond security forces and the attackers.

The mine, which produces about a quarter of Angola's diamonds, will be inoperable for some time, although it is now firmly back in government hands.

South Africa releases Swapo co-founder

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mr Herman Toivo Ja Toivo, often spoken of as "the father of the liberation struggle" in Namibia (South-West Africa), has been released from prison four years before the end of a 20-year sentence on terrorism charges, according to informed sources.

Mr Toivo, a co-founder with Mr Sam Nujoma of Swapo (South-West Africa People's Organization), was moved earlier this week from Robben Island, South Africa's island jail in Table Bay, to a prison in Namibia.

His release had been demanded by a group of political parties in Namibia called the Multi-Party Conference (MPC), whose credibility South Africa is anxious to boost, as a competitor to Swapo in possible pre-independence elections in the territory.

One of the parties in the MPC, is Mr Andreas Shipango's Swapo Democrats, a group which broke away from the Swapo mainstrean after a dispute between Mr Shipango and Mr Nujoma. Mr Shipango has long called for Mr Toivo's release, claiming that he would side with him rather than Mr Nujoma.

It appears that South Africa may be hoping Mr Toivo could provide an alternative attraction for Swapo supporters, thereby weakening Mr Nujoma's position.

Mr Toivo, who will be 60 later this year, was imprisoned in 1968 after being convicted of acts of terrorism with the intent of overthrowing the present government

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هكذا من الأصل

"That's a very original opinion. Didn't I read it originally in The Economist?"

"In the hope of founding a new peasant industry the Philippine government is sponsoring pilot plants for rearing worms on animal slurry specifically for their meat. And the aim is not to produce animal feed but human food. Dried into powder, the scheme's promoters say, the meat from this variety of worm... makes a delicious addition to beefburgers. They have their eyes on Japan as an export market. Lucky Japan."

"If an opera house is to have a purpose, it needs to commission new works and submit half-forgotten ones to the test of fresh ears. If the verdict is unfavourable, so be it. Opera lovers should welcome disappointments. They are the everyday failures against which the great evenings can be measured."

"Imagine, for instance, where Marks & Spencer would be today if it had said 20 years ago that it wanted to concentrate on selling pullovers and oranges. The comparison is not fanciful.

In retailing then, as in financial services now, future growth belongs to those who offer what their customers want, not just what they think is good for them. There is no doubt that the customers of building societies want them to become more like banks."

"Since income tax was introduced as a temporary measure to pay for the Napoleonic wars, the tax code has evolved as a hodgepodge. Multinational companies are taxed as though they were Victorian textile mills: husbands are still in charge of their wives' tax affairs. Everywhere the guiding principles are lawyers' past precedents rather than economists' contemporary logic."

"Under his peculiar Victorian helmet, your ordinary London bobby is racist, sexist, bored, aimless and quite often drunk. Despite this, only 10% of Londoners completely lack confidence in their police. Most citizens seem not to expect very high standards in a tough and brave job, and are satisfied with the service the police provide."

"Neanderthals were not the idiots of legend. Their brains were as large as, if not larger than, those of today's Nobel prize winners; they buried their dead (though a suggestion that they put flowers on their graves now looks dubious); and for about 80,000 years they thrived in Europe and Asia."

"New research predicts that even a limited nuclear exchange in the (heavily industrialised) northern hemisphere could ignite enough fires to pump hundreds of millions of tons of soot into the atmosphere in a matter of days. That would blot out virtually all sunlight. Freezing cold would then kill off plants, animals and possibly even the healthy human survivors."



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It's witty, wise, opinionated, eclectic, influential and sometimes, even eccentric.

Just like a good dinner party. Without the washing up.

The Economist

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France braced for mass demonstrations as industrial unrest spreads

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The wave of industrial unrest spread farther through France yesterday as banks remained closed throughout the day due to strike action.

Wine-growers in the south went on the rampage, causing *hundreds of thousands* of pounds of damage and several injuries, and unions representing nearly five million workers in the public service sector announced plans for strikes *next week after the* breakdown of talks on pay with the Government.

Paris is bracing itself today for a mass demonstration by the five main miners' unions in protest against threatened pit closures and the loss – according to the unions – of 28,000 jobs over the next four years.

The demonstration follows last week's 48-hour strike, the *first national miners' strike in* 21 years.

On Sunday the parents of pupils in the predominantly Roman Catholic private schools will hold the last of five demonstrations against government proposals to "harmonize" the private school system, representing 15 per cent of pupils, with the state system.

The Government already pays for virtually the whole cost of private schooling and feels it should have more control over how the money is spent.

Last Sunday nearly 300,000 demonstrators marched through Lille in defence of the continuation of the special privileges enjoyed by private schools. The organizers are expecting up to 500,000 in Versailles this Sunday.

There are tentative signs that the Government may have taken heed of their protest and may be willing to modify its already watered-down proposals.

The shock waves from the nine-day lorry drivers' dispute, which ended last week, continue to be felt. Negotiations opened yesterday between the Government, the road haulage federations and the unions representing the employed drivers on the two remaining key issues – a reduction in the tax on fuel and greater flexibility in working hours.

The Ministry of Transport has announced a meeting of all EEC transport ministers on March 22 to discuss ways of facilitating the passage of European frontiers by different types of vehicles.

In the public service sector, government proposals designed to bring the increase in workers' wages over the past two years into line with the rise in prices have been rejected as unacceptable by most of the unions involved.

The independent Force Ouvrière has announced a 48-hour strike on March 8 and 9, while the Communist-controlled CGT, the left-wing Fen (representing a majority of teachers) and other independent unions have called for a 24-hour strike on March 8, backed by mass street demonstrations.

Unions representing all Air France personnel are also planning a 24-hour strike on March 8 over alleged cuts in real wages. Yesterday's strike by bank employees was likewise prompted by grievances over pay and also by union fears of the loss of more than 50,000 jobs in banking over the next three years.

In the Languedoc-Roussillon area in the south-west, wine growers showed what happens when the law tries to intervene too directly with their "right to protest". More than 2,000 stormed the court in Carcassonne after four of their number had been fined 2,000 francs (about £170) and given one-month suspended prison sentences for having hijacked lorries carrying imported wine *which they emptied over the* road.

After breaking the court's windows and trying to set the building alight, the incensed wine-growers went on the rampage throughout the region during Wednesday and Thursday night, ransacking two railway stations, a town hall, a local tax office and three toll booths.



Tearful witness: The *stepdaughter* of Rolando Galman, alleged killer of Benigno Aquino, yesterday testified that Mr Galman had been taken from their home by a Philippine Air Force colonel four days before the opposition leader was murdered (AFP reports from Manila).

Roberta Masibay, aged 16, (above) also told the board of inquiry that her mother, missing since January 29, told her before leaving home that she had been summoned by a General Ver.

General Fabian Ver, Armed Forces Chief of Staff, later said this was an "outrageous lie."

University spurns gift of man linked to Nazi child-killing

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Keil University has turned down a bequest of Dm500,000 (£125,000) because the former professor who left the money had been involved in the killing of handicapped children under the Nazis.

Professor Werner Catel, who died in 1981 aged 86, left the money to fund scholarships in medical and scientific research. But a university spokesman said the senate unanimously rejected the bequest, believing moral reservations about his activities before 1945 were more important than the money.

From 1939 Herr Catel had evaluated official reports on "severe hereditary illness" and decided *whether* thousands of mentally and physically handicapped children should be classified as worthless and killed. In 1960 he resigned his post as head of the university children's clinic when his involvement in the "euthanasia" programme became known.

Meanwhile, it has been revealed that 800 members of the former Waffen-SS have arranged to hold their controversial annual reunion in May in Bad Harzburg, a town associated with the Nazi-led Harzburg Front that rallied opposition to the government of Dr Heinrich Brüning in 1931.

On Tuesday the trial in Zweibrücken of a couple said to have distributed a board game based on the wartime gassing of jews was stopped after a week and a new trial *ordered* because of inconsistencies in the evidence of a handwriting expert.

Hans-Günther Fröhlich, a former police officer, and his girl-friend were accused of inciting racial hatred by designing a game that circulated in schools last year. It consisted of moving counters marked Jews from the points of a Star of David, named after concentration camps, into a central square labelled gas chamber.

Regime attacks Polish lawyer

From Our Correspondent, Warsaw

Poland's foremost human rights lawyer, Mr Wladyslaw Sila-Nowicki, was attacked sharply in the government-controlled press yesterday for writing an open letter to General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, accusing the authorities of "dangerous" and "cynical" violations of the law to cover up *the investigation into the fatal* beating of a Warsaw schoolboy.

The attack, published in most national dailies, claimed that Mr Sila-Nowicki had lied and slandered the State Prosecutor's office to stir up political emotions. The article said that Mr Sila-Nowicki "depicted Poland as a country ruled by police provocation", and hinted that legal action might be taken against the opposition lawyer for his "slanderous accusations".

Mr Sila-Nowicki, the leading member of Poland's small community of human rights lawyers and a representative on the National Lawyers' Council, wrote to General Jaruzelski after police arrested another opposition lawyer, Mr Maciej Bednarkiewicz, in January, on charges of aiding a deserter from the riot police and trying to induce him to steal a police radio and reveal information about the security forces.

Mr Bednarkiewicz was the lawyer for the mother of Grzegorz Przemyk, a 19-year-old Warsaw secondary school student who died of internal injuries in May, 1983 after allegedly being beaten while in police custody.

In the widely-published reply to Mr Sila-Nowicki's letter, a pro-government journalist, Jerzy Nowomiejski, wrote that "any gestures of a humanitarian nature towards people as rabid as Bednarkiewicz or Sila-Nowicki are pointless".

In his letter to General Jaruzelski, Mr Sila-Nowicki wrote that the charges against Mr Bednarkiewicz were a fabricated provocation, designed to prevent him from presenting evidence that Mr Przemyk was fatally beaten by two policemen.

Troops alerted to run Madrid trains

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Soldiers doing their national service on the railways will be ordered today to help to run the Madrid Underground if the workers persist with their second strike this week.

Spain's Socialist Government gave a warning of the use of troops after railway staff, among whom the Communists are in a majority, decided not to back down on wage demands. They want a 10 per cent increase this year, but the Government has set a 6.5 per cent limit for the public sector.

Members of the Socialist General Workers' Union, however, are expected to work alongside the servicemen to maintain a skeleton rush-hour service.

The Government of Señor Felipe González yesterday faced social unrest on three other fronts. In Barcelona and surrounding Catalan towns, shopkeepers responded to a call not to open their premises in a protest against a wave of shop robberies. The conservative party which forms Catalonia's autonomous government backed the protest.

The shopkeepers say that the Socialists' reforms limiting the time that accused people can be held in jail before trial has put *habitual criminals back on the* streets sooner.

For the fourth time in a fortnight, ground staff of the Iberia airline staged peak-hour stoppages three times yesterday. *They are protesting against* economies by the state airline which would hit salaries and benefits.

A national strike call was well heeded yesterday by Spain's 400,000 *textile workers for the* second consecutive day.

● **Four arrested:** Four Spaniards were detained yesterday only hours after the killing of a 28-year-old Frenchman in Hendaye, just across the Franco-Spanish border.

Eye-witnesses at Hendaye railway station, where the Frenchmen worked, had reported seeing two gunmen fleeing towards the border.

ETA *was immediately* suspected of a second violent death yesterday when a retired senior police inspector was shot in Victoria in the Basque region. The ammunition used was of the kind habitually used by the organization. Three young men penetrated the retired policemen's home, despite precautions he had taken against admitting strangers.



Señor González: Facing unrest on four fronts.

Punjab ban imposed on scooters

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi

The Government banned the use of motorcycles and scooters throught Punjab yesterday. Unidentified Sikh terrorists have been riding these vehicles and escaping after killing Hindus.

In the past seven days nearly 50 Hindus died as the result of a renewed spurt of terrorist activity.

Police have surrounded the Sikh golden temple at Amritsar *after Sikh extremists* killed four Hindus with an Indian Army grenade on Wednesday. The police believe the extremists took shelter in the temple after the killings. The curfew on Wednesday *continues* in the town.

A bank in Tran Taran, near Amritsar, was looted by Sikhs who escaped with half a million rupees. Schools and colleges in main towns *of Punjab are* shut and tension is rebuilding

Uganda treason trial told MP visited guerrillas

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi

A Uganda opposition MP, *Dr* Yoweri Kyesimira, who is on trial in Kampala for treason, is alleged by a prosecution witness to have visited a guerrilla camp *near Kampala* in 1982 and congratulated the underground Uganda Freedom Movement on the success of an attack on an army barracks in Kampala.

Miss Samali Bamutire said she was with guerrillas who attacked the barracks. She surrendered later.

Dr Kyesimira, once professor of economics at Makerere University, Kampala, has been under arrest since 1982. He denies the charge of treason, which carries a death sentence.

Russian backlash on airliner

From John Best
Ottawa

The Soviet Union has once more sought to pin responsibility for last year's Korean airliner disaster on the United States, claiming that it resulted from a "provocative mission" organized by the Americans' intelligence gathering.

In a harshly worded statement in Montreal this week Mr Boris Ryjenkov, executive secretary of the Soviet delegation to the International Civil *Aviation Organization*, rejected an ICAO report which found a Soviet interceptor fighter at fault in the catastrophe.

All 269 people on board Korean Airline flight 007 died *when the aircraft* was shot down over Soviet territory on September 1 on a flight from Alaska to Seoul.

Mr Ryjenkov's statement, issued as ICAO's 33-member *council* met to discuss the incident, appeared to dash any lingering hopes that the Soviet Union would agree to pay compensation to the families of the victims.

A number of countries, including Canada and the United States, have demanded the compensation, but the Russians have never formally accepted the claims.

Mr Ryjenkov alleged that flight 007's incursion into Soviet air space was a "pre-planned intelligence operation", and that the airliner's crew *knew that* they were deviating from their proper flight course.

Moreover, American and Japanese air traffic controllers had taken no "corrective steps", *even* though they knew that the airliner had strayed into Soviet air space.

Mr Ryjenkov's declaration was at variance with a report realesed by ICAO last December, which found that flight 007 strayed off-course because of a navigational error.

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East German leader's niece goes home with visa pledge

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Frau Ingrid Berg, the niece of Herr Willi Stoph, the East German Prime Minister, has left the West German Embassy in Prague and returned with her husband, two children and mother-in-law to East Germany, a West German Government spokesman confirmed yesterday.

It is reliably understood here that the East Germans, after a week of intensive negotiations, have promised to give them visas to emigrate to the West, but have not said when. The family was said to have been reluctant to leave the embassy without firm guarantees.

The arrangement was negotiated by Herr Wolfgang Vogel, the East German lawyer who is a close confidant of Herr Erich Honecker, the party leader. He has negotiated the exit of thousands of East Germans to the West.

No details of the deal have been released here, but Bonn and East Berlin were clearly interested in a swift end to the embarrassing incident with a minimum of publicity.

Bonn was particularly worried that the affair could sour the improving relations between the two German states. It came at a time when a record number of East Germans have been streaming across the border, as East Berlin has granted exit permits to applicants. Some 2,600 arrived at the emergency reception centre in Giessen in February (four times as many as in February last year) and 1,400 came in January.

If this rate continues, Bonn estimates that some 20,000 or more East Germans may come by the end of the year.

The liberalization is attributed by Bonn to the East German wish to display a more human face in anticipation of a further request by East Berlin for more credit arrangements. The West Germans have apparently paid large sums of money to allow so many people to leave.

Because of her uncle's position, Frau Berg's action was especially difficult to handle without the East Germans losing face. But reports in several papers suggest that there are at least 14 other East Germans also in the Prague embassy.

The West German Border Protection Service recently published figures showing that last year 51 East Germans, including nine soldiers, risked their lives crossing the mined and fortified frontier with West Germany. Three were injured during their escape. There were another 30 unsuccessful attempts to cross the border.

The annual report said that East Germany was continuing to dismantle the automatic scatter guns along the border, as it promised to do last year. Some 33 miles of border were now clear, but the guns were still in place along a further 240 miles. A second wall, set back from the main border, had been raised from 6ft to 9ft to deter escapers, the number of automatic trip wires had been doubled and concrete slabs driven into the ground to prevent tunnelling.

600 detonations of automatic firing devices were registered last year, as well as 200 shots from the East German side of the border. Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Minister of the Interior, said the change in the "inhuman barricades" had not made this unnatural border any more penetrable.



Bullet and ballot: While troops killed 15 guerrillas in eastern El Salvador, peasant leaders of the Democratic Popular Union marched in San Salvador in support of the Christian Democrats in the March 25 poll.

Zia plans an Islamic election

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

President Zia ul-Haq has given a clear indication that he would change the election system for the promised polls by March next year to make them conform to the Islamic way.

He said that his present handpicked consultive council of about 280 members, functioning in place of parliament, would continue to exist until replaced by an elected house.

General Zia, addressing local councillors from all over Parkistan at Sibi in Baluchistan on Wednesday, said he was launching his campaign for elections to the national and provincial assemblies from that province.

He urged the local councillors to go to the people and tell them that only the Islamic system would result in the election of God-fearing true Parkistanis to lead the people.

Though some important elements of General Zia's proposed Islamic elections are undefined, he said he would announce in two and a half months' time his decision whether to permit political parties to contest elections. He would also announce the election schedule.

General Zia's statement to keep the consultive council alive during the polls is expected to give an edge to his chosen supporters in elections against the opposition, which is not even permitted under martial law to function as a political body.

Turkey ends martial law in 13 provinces

The Turkish Cabinet decided yesterday to lift martial law in 13 of the country's 67 provinces for the fist time in five years, but extended it for at least four months in the rest (our correspondent in Ankara writes).

In eight of the 13 provinces, however, a state of emergency will remain in force under which governors enjoy sweeping powers and are empowered to ban strikes, and curb unions

Commission wants £8,300m more to keep EEC solvent

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The European Commission has named its price for keeping the EEC solvent and vital up to the turn of the millenium. In a paper circulated to member states yesterday it asks for its spending ceiling to be raised by about £8,300m a year at present rates.

The proposal will be put to the European summit in three weeks' time, along with ideas for reforming the common agricultural policy and reducing the size of Britain's share of Community financing.

It is not the Commission's intention that all this extra *money should be spent at once.* But it insists that the legal ceiling must be raised substantially if the Community is not to be locked into a perpetual argument over its cash crisis.

Not until 1986 at the earliest could any extra money be made available, even if the summit were to approve it. This is because any increase would need to be ratified by all national parliaments, a long process taking well over a year.

The Commission estimates that by 1986, if Spain and Portugal are admitted to the Community, spending will immediately have to rise substantially above the present ceiling. Even with the kind of strict budgetary discipline Britain is demanding, there would be no money available for funding any new policies, and scarcely enough to pay for the old ones.

The present ceiling means that the Community can have no more than about £15,316m this year and it is already committed to spend all but £26m.

Of this total about 7,000m is raised by payment of a proportion of value-added tax receipts, and it is this proportion which is subject to the "ceiling".

Because VAT is charged on different items and at different rates throughout the Community, a hypothetical rate based on a common basket of goods and services has been set and used to calculate a hypothetical VAT revenue total.

At the moment the member states have agreed to hand over up to 1 per cent of this total to the Community. The Commission wants to double that percentage, and so make up to twice as much money available from VAT.

Both West German members of the commission objected to the proposed increase, which was strongly supported by Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the British Budget commissioner.

It is already clear that both countries will need a lot of convincing before agreeing such an increase. Britain, in particular, will never allow any rise unless it is totally satisfied that it is being asked to pay no more than a fair share towards the budget.

Soviet number two role for Gorbachev

Moscow (NYT) – Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the youngest member of the Politburo and the one considered closest to Mr Andropov before the Soviet leader's death, seemed to affirm his standing as number two on the ruling council on Wednesday, when he addressed voters only two days before Mr Chernenko.

Speaking in Itapovo in the nothern Caucasus, Mr Gorbachev focused strongly on economic issues, listing many of the experiments and programmes that were begun under Mr Andropov in eforts to revise the Sovier economy.



Mr Gorbachev: Key speech on economic policy.

The emphasis suggested to Western diplomats that Mr Gorbachev, who originally joined the Politburo as an expert on agriculture, had been given broad responsibility for the economy, perhaps to prusue the changes initiated by Mr Andropov.

Mr Gorbachev passed only lightly over foreign affairs in his speech, which was published in *Izvestia*. He seemed to strike a somewhat less strident tune on feferring to the United States than either Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister or Marshal Dmitri Ustinov, the Defence Minister. He declared that Moscow was ready "to use any real chace fro fair negotiations, for reaching practical accords".

Ther had been several earlier signals that Mr Gorbachev, who is 52, had assumed a strong position in the Politburo after Mr Chernenko was named party leader. He had made the closing comments at the Central Committee session that selected Mr Chernenko, and he stood to the right of the new leader after his appointment.

Western diplomats said the timing of his address to voters seemed to be the strongest evidence so far of his standing in the leadership. In the weeks preceding Sunday's uncontested elections to the Supreme Soviet, Politburo members each make a speech to the district from which they are formally nominated.

The speeches generally come in ascending order of importance, and the last two are reserved for the premier, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, and the party chief, Mr Chernenko, who is scheduled to speak today.

By speaking just before Mr Tikhonov, and after such senior members as Mr Gromyko and Marshal Ustinov, Mr Gorbachev seemed to underline his position.

Diplomats said it remained unclear whether Mr Chernenko had advanced Mr Gorbachev, or whether his promotion was a bargain struck between Mr Chernenko and those Politburo members who preferred a younger leader and wanted assurances that the changes Mr Andropov had set in motion would not be abandoned.

In his speech, Mr Gorbachev listed many of the priorities Mr Andropov had set when he first came to power in November, 1982, such as modernizing industrial technology, improving management, bolstering labour discipline, fighting corruption and increasing industrial production.

Mr Gorbachev was generally regarded as the Politburo member responsible for carrying on many of Mr Andropov's projects as the leader's health deteriorated. He had also played an important role in efforts to bring new blood into regional party machines and in cracking down on corruption.

In his speech Mr Gorbachev spoke of "further enforcing order, increasing exactingness, organization and discipline and waging uncompromizing struggle with the negative phenomena that contradict our morals and socialist legality".

Mr Gorbachev's treatment of foreign affairs was too brief to give diplomats much grist for analysis.

Senate defeat for Reagan in nuclear exports vote

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The Senate, ignoring Reagan Administration pleas for more leeway, has voted to ban exports of nuclear equipment or technology to nations which do not have nuclear weapons and have not signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The amendment to a Bill revising export controls was approved by voice vote on Tuesday. It was supported by a coalition of conservatives and liberals who fear diversion of equipment to nuclear weapons.

The prohibition would affect countries such as Argentina, Brazil, India, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan and South Africa, a congressional aide said.

Its critics argued that the ban would not work, since prohibited countries could get nuclear technology and equipment elsewhere.

The Senate had earlier defeated, by 55 to 38 votes, an alternative offered by the Administration. This would have allowed more discretion in US nuclear exports for peaceful purposes.

The Administration argued that the US must participate in nuclear trade to be able to influence it. Its proposal would have encouraged nations to abide by standards of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency.

End of an era as Pierre Trudeau quits, leaving a void at the heart of political life

Canadians in two minds about maverick who gave them a touch of class

From Trevor Fishlock, Ottawa

"A lot of us hated him. A lot of us liked him, too," the girl said. "We'll miss him because he made us come alive. Trudeau got us by the scruff of the neck and shook us. And for all his faults and failures he made Canada less mundane and made us more aware and proud of our country. That's what we'll thank him for."

Pierre Trudeau always polarized. The intensity of the love-hate relationship between leader and led was part of the fabric of the extraordinary Trudeau era and the most remarkable career in Canadian politics.

Apart from the nine-month Tory hiccup of 1979-80, he led the Liberals and the country for 16 years. It is curious that such a conservative, orderly and (compared with the other North Americans) understated, people should have been led for so long by a man who instinctively and defiantly cut against the grain: an intellectual French-Canadian, aggressive, [illegible], arrogant, bullying, [illegible], sensual, a devoted [illegible] of political and social conventions and possessor of one of the phenomenal egos of [illegible] politics.

He played to win and made it plain, with almost animal assertiveness, that no one could push him around. "Just watch me," he said early in his leadership. It was at a time when he showed his ruthless and pugnacious streak in confronting the Quebec terrorists. And, over the years Canadians have watched him and they have been appalled and approving, scandalized and delighted.

He never repressed the Puck and Peter Pan in his character. He pirouetted behind the Queen's back at Buckingham Palace. He still dances at discos at nearly 65, and echo of "Trendy Trudeau". He has never shrunk from playing rough and Canadians remember his rude finger-gestures to people who displeased him, his snarled *"Mangez de l'merde"* to union demonstrators. He has always been a good hater and has conducted a long acrimonious relationship with the press.

His minx of a wife shocked sober Canada by telling all. Her husband's stock rose because of his dignified reticence over his broken marriage and his single-parent devotion to his three sons.

Some Liberals think he hijacked their party when he succeeded Lester Pearson in 1968. And, in a way, he did. But Canadian parties are very similar and divided by philosophy, and politics have much more to do with personalities than creeds. With the party as his vehicle, Mr Trudeau made Canada a laboratory for his experiments, and while his [illegible] will [illegible] much.

During his reign Canadians have confronted and accepted the important French ingredient of their uniqueness and the need to secure social harmony and national integrity according to Mr Trudeau's necessary prescription of bilingualism and détente.

The constitution has been patriated, a long sought Trudeau objective. It gives Canada the opportunity to make its own rules and to be more truly itself.

Mr Trudeau derived his support from well populated Eastern Canada and notably from Quebec. He never cut much ice in Western Canada and part of the antipathy to him sprang from Western suspicion and resentment towards the federal Government in Ottawa. Westerners marked Mr Trudeau as a French Canadian who did not care about them.

Mr Trudeau grew accustomed to power and to a place on the world stage. He travelled widely and made Canada, a country of 24 million, better known in the world. He seemed to give it a touch of class. He raised Canadians' respect for themselves and gave them a broader vision.

He has always been the most difficult of men, enigmatic, self-contained, solitary and unpredictable. Even his closest staff did not know until the last minute that he was resigning. He lived for the day and did not look too far ahead. It was in keeping with his flair for the dramatic that he should go off [illegible] political fox grown [illegible], the hounds closing in.

Power and its trappings will be [illegible] to relinquish. But Mr Trudeau knows that he is unpopular in the country, detested by many businessmen, that the Liberals look dishevelled after long rule, that Canada aches for a change.



Bottled up: Mr Trudeau [illegible] with a bottle of water during question time at a management symposium in [illegible] earlier this year.

Leadership battle looming

From John Best, Ottawa

Mr Pierre Trudeau's decision to resign after 15 years as Prime Minister has stunned Canadians and, for a brief moment at least, left a big void at the heart of the *country's political life.*

The calm is not expected to last for long, however. Probably within a week or so, candidates for the leadership of the Liberal Party will start lining up.

A convention to choose a new leader and Prime Minister will probably take place towards the end of June. Mr Trudeau *will stay until his successor is* chosen

With his flair for the dramatic and unexpected, Mr Trudeau caught nearly everyone by surprise with his resignation announcement on Wednesday, even though it had been the *main subject of speculation here* for several months.

The speculation had abated after reaching a crescendo last week with news reports suggesting that his long-awaited move was imminent.

There are expected to be any number of candidates for Mr Trudeau's job, beginning with Mr John Turner, a former member of the Trudeau Cabinet.

The photogenic, grey-haired Mr Turner, aged 54, [illegible] maintained an astonishingly strong hold on the affections of many Liberal Party [illegible] even though he has been out of federal politics for eight years.

The rest of the slate of contenders is dominated by Cabinet members: The Energy Minister, Mr Jean Chrétien; the Minister of Justice, Mr Mark MacGuigan; the Agriculture Minister, Mr Eugene [illegible]; the Minister of [illegible] Trade, Mr Gerald [illegible]; the Minister of Employment and Immigration, Mr John Roberts.

Malta school talks soon

From Austin Sammutt, Valletta

[illegible] Vatican [illegible] Government [illegible] schools issue are [illegible] result, the [illegible] stopped or at [illegible] its takeover of [illegible] schools.

[illegible] Deputy Prime [illegible] Dr Carmelo Mifsud [illegible] had set Wednesday as [illegible] by which the [illegible] of Malta, Mgr [illegible] Mercieca, had to declare [illegible] church schools were [illegible] to provide free education, failing which the Government would take them [illegible] Archbishop did not make the required declaration.

Just as Dr Mifsud Bonnici's threat seemed about to become reality, the pro-government press yesterday published a statement from the Deputy Prime Minister which announced that on Tuesday the Government had been told by the Vatican that it was prepared to continue negotiations, without any obstruction in the form of "conditions" from both sides.

The dispute has steadily grown since June, 1980, when government subsidies to private schools were abolished.

Fears grow in Congress over Central America policy

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

A selection of recent Washington headlines illuminates the immediate direction of United States policy in Central America: "Reagan plans rise in military moves"; "US agrees to sell helicopter parts to Guatemalans"; Reconnaissance flights planned in Honduras"; "More El Salvador arms aid urged".

There is a pattern to events, a steady, inexorable escalation of US economic and military involvement in the nations of the region. El Salvador is central to the policy. As that shattered republic moves towards presidential elections on March 25, so the Reagan Administration is plotting how best to bypass Congress and bolster the demoralized Army with another infusion of money.

After the collapse of Mr Reagan's policy in Lebanon, there is a greater nervousness in Congress about the Administration's determination to raise the stakes, military and economic, in El Salvador. So determined is the President to help El Salvador before the election that he is thinking of employing a little-used presidential power to provide emergency military support without recourse to congressional approval.

Few observers in Washington seriously expect the Salvadorean election to produce democracy or stability. That puts the United States in a difficult position. It pushed hard for the election and has a huge stake in the outcome because it represents such a critical test of Mr Reagan's attempt to promote democracy.

But neither of the two principal presidential candidates appears to offer such a rare Central American phenomenon as democracy. Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, the ultra-conservative, is suspected of death squad activities. The comparatively moderate Seor José Napoleón Duarte is so distrusted by the right that his election could precipitate a military coup. Ironically, the stronger the Americans make the Salvadorean Army, the more it raises the possibility of a coup.

Those considerations, plus what happened in Lebanon, have caused the mood in Washington to move increasingly against the President, an economic and [illegible] package for Central America totalling $8.4 billion ([illegible] billion) for the years 1985-90 is now before Congress and will be debated by an important House Foreign Affairs Sub-committee in a day or two - its first congressional hurdle.

The Democrats will attempt to reduce the size of the package and they may attract open support from some Republicans. They will also seek to impose conditions, for three principal reasons: the region is in such turmoil that the basic instruments of government are ill-equipped to handle a windfall of money; there is strong evidence that US economic assistance programmes have been extensively mismanaged; and there is no convincing reason to believe that large sums of American money will reverse the endemic brutality, exploitation and corruption.

Confidential State Department reports conclude that many of the Central American institutions responsible for distributing American assistance have had difficulty handling the present level of financing. Abuses cited include the illegal diversion of funds for private gain, fraudulent accounting procedures and spending that never reached the people

The sums involved almost certainly run into several million dollars annually. Not only is the question of assistance an issue in itself - so is the question of whether places like El Salvador have the will and the infrastructure to distribute it effectively, fairly and honestly.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, has understandably tried to play down the [illegible] problem. "In any spending programme, even in the United States, not everything is perfect," he said.

Nato stunned by Kissinger

From [illegible], Brussels

A minor bombshell exploded in Nato at the beginning of this week. In an article in *Time* magazine, Dr Henry Kissinger, the former American Secretary of State, made some resounding criticisms of the Alliance and proposed some startling measures to reshape it structure.

Dr Kissinger is highly respected here for his knowledge and acumen, and is believed to be close to President Reagan. However, there was *considerable criticism of* his ideas in Nato. Although American officials initially considered his proposal a positive, they also disagreed with them in *every detail, calling* the Alliance healthy, the strategy viable and the structure sound.

West German sources said Herr Alois Mertes, Minister of State at the German Foreign Ministry, described the proposals as "more harmful than helpful". Dr Joseph Luns, Nato's Secretary General, called them "a bolt from the blue". General Bernard Rogers, Nato's Supreme Commander in Europe, called them "[illegible]".

At an informal meeting on Tuesday most permanent representatives of the member countries took an unfavourable view. Some diplomats considered that Dr Kissingers arguments rested on a profound misappreciation of the status and development of Europe

Dr Kissinger's main proposals are, indeed, dramatic. Warning the public on both sides of the Atlantic about the disintegration of the Alliance, he believes that the situation can only be redressed by an assumption of greater responsibility by the European allies.

He advocates that by 1990 Europe should assume the main responsibility for conventional ground defence, a European officer should take over the traditionally American post of supreme commander in Europe and an American the traditionally European one of Nato secretary general.

He also proposes that Europe should take over the responsibility for arms control negotiations for weapons stationed on European territory, that is those for intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) and the Vienna troop reduction talks (MBER).

Diplomats point out that the MBFR negotiations are already conducted on a multinational basis, and the Nato side is not, in any case, led by the Americans. As for the stalled INF negotiations, these could not be conducted by Europeans because the weapons are American and their control and use is primarily an American responsibility.

Responsibility for conventional ground defence is already largely European, Nato diplomats point out, quoting a March, 1982, report to the US Congress by the Secretary of Defence, which listed the European allies as providing 90 per cent of the ground forces 80 per cent of the combat aircraft and tanks and 70 per cent of the fighting ships in European waters and the Atlantic.

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THE ARTS

Cinema

Heroes of American righteousness

'he Right Stuff (15)
Varner West End

:hampions (PG)
)deon Leicester Square

:armen (15)
'urzon

)ver the Brooklyn 3ridge (15)
:lassic Haymarket

;treet Fleet (15)
'iaza

:hristine (18)
.eicester Square Theatre

\cceptable Levels (15)
:veryman Hampstead

'om Wolfe prefaces his book The :ight Stuff with the reflection: Immediately following the First Vorld War a certain fashion set in mong writers in Europe and soon pread to their obedient colonial ounterparts in the United States. Var was looked upon as inherently ionstrous. . . The old-fashioned tale f prowess and heroism was relegated) second and third-rate forms of iterature." *Variety* more ›rthrightly defined the current hanged climate: "Just a few years go, getting gung ho about the *The ight Stuff* simply couldn't have een possible for young hipsters."

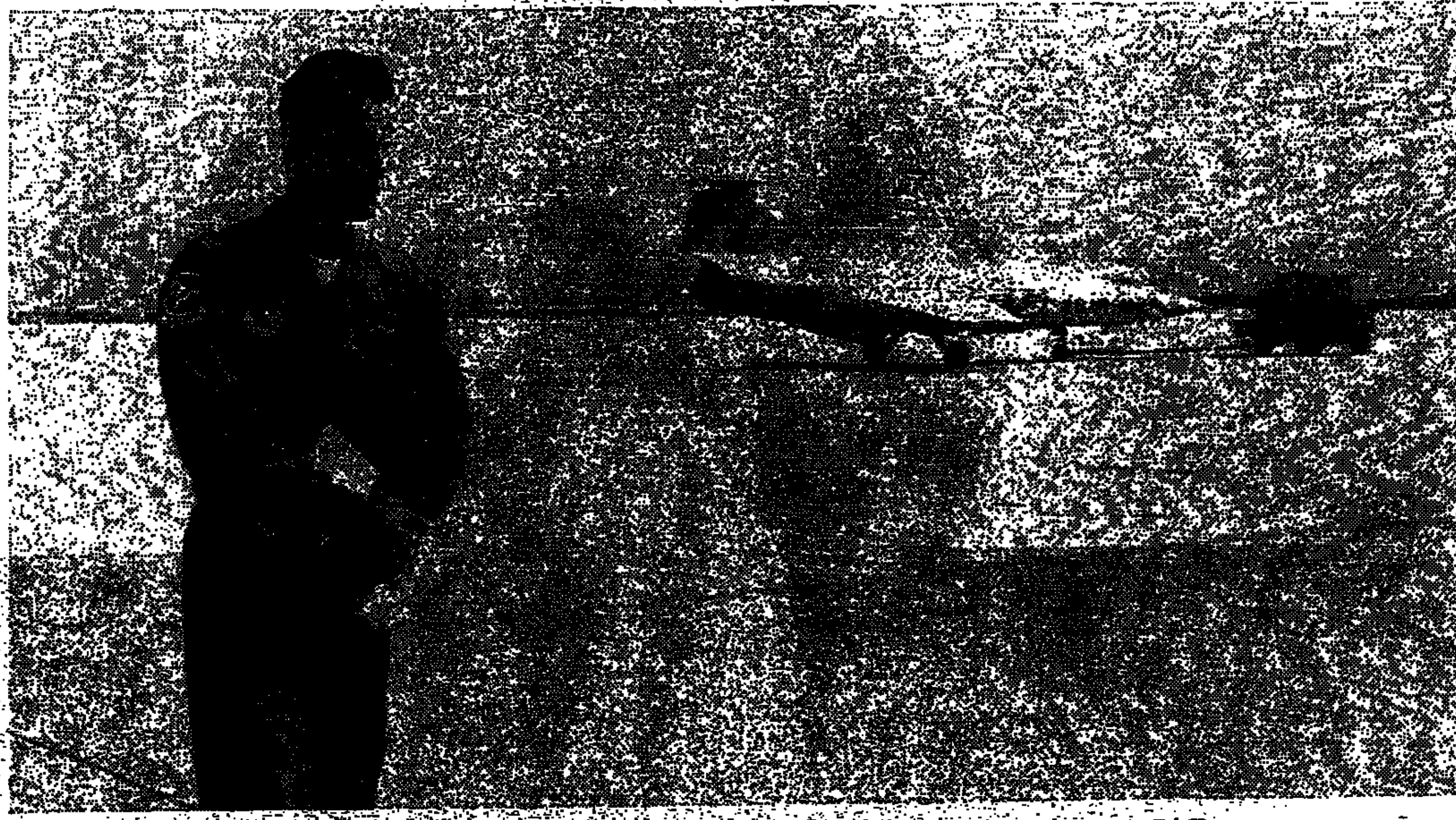
The patriotism and chauvinism of *he Right Stuff* are not as strident or nrelieved as a Soviet nationalist pic; but it is unlikely that the film ould have been made except in the :mosphere of the Second Cold War. Volfe's purpose in the book was to xplore the psychological mystery of hy the first astronauts were willing delighted, rather – to take on such dds in an era "long since characte- zed as the age of the anti-hero". 'hilip Kaufman, as writer and director of the film adaptation, is more simply concerned to trace the practical processes and national glory involved in forming men to conquer space.

The story covers 16 years, from the breaking of the sound barrier by Chuck Yeager in the late 1940s to the reception of the triumphant astronauts at their new base in Houston, Texas. The film documents the selection of those few possessed of the Right Stuff (which excludes Yeager for want of a college education); the rigorous medical examination (which provides comic relief of a peculiarly American taste, involving enemas, and urine and semen sampling); the Herculean trials of conditioning and training; the special problems of celebrity.

The astronauts are the Magnificent Seven, pitched not only against the cosmos but against the world as well. Like Western heroes, their courage and righteousness (and in this case the virtue of their wives) are seen in relief against the folly and wickedness of the midgets who surround them. The men from NASA are clowns who play their big scene while being seasick (more American gastric humour) over the side of an aircraft carrier. The boffins who have created the space hardware are comic Germans who say "Ja, Ja" and spend their leisure time singing "Lili Marlene" around the canteen piano. The press are malevolent locusts who beat their wings in fury against the windows of the good people they torment. Lyndon B. Johnson is a petulant, publicity-hungry villain.

The only people who are allowed to approach the astronauts in human stature are Kennedy – who is not impersonated like the rest, but brought on like an icon in bits of old actuality footage – and Ike, who appears dramatically from the shadows of the cabinet room to play his part as the wise old statesman. It is, through and through, a WASP-ish world: the film lasts more than three hours, and not a single black face is seen.

The film concentrates on four of the seven astronauts – Glenn (Ed Harris), Shepard (Scott Glenn), Cooper (Dennis Quaid) and Grissom (Fred Ward). The men are sharply characterized, though generally with rather fewer and smaller warts than Tom Wolfe gives them. In particular Glenn (who was already a Democratic candidate for presidential nomination when the film was begun) is no longer stiff, stuffy and pious, but a regular guy with the diffident grin of a Wayne or Cooper.



Sam Shepard's majestic Chuck Yeager, preparing to test-fly the NF-104 in *The Right Stuff*

While the film drastically simplifies psychology and attitudes, there are compensations in the spectacle – the test fliers and astronauts set out on their mystic explorations of the future from primeval deserts – and performances. Especially notable are Sam Shepard's majestic Yeager and Mary Jo Deschanel's touching playing as Glenn's shy and stammering wife.

Champions also attempts an epic of human courage, though on a more intimate scale. It is based fairly faithfully on Bob Champion's own record of how, at the height of his career as a steeplechase jockey, he became a victim of severe cancer. Champion faced the terrible, seemingly endless ordeal of months of chemotherapy, and afterwards beat overwhelming odds to return to racing and win the 1981 Grand National. The drama is heightened since his National mount, Aldaniti, had also been pronounced permanently disabled; so that the battle of man and animal is paralleled.

The film's director, John Irvin, has been responsible for the television *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* as well as two feature films, *The Dogs of War* and *Ghost Story*; but his background, like that of his producer Peter Shaw, has been in documentary. With John Hurt (the most documentary of actors) in the leading role, a substantial part of the film is devoted to unsparing detail of the agonising side-effects of the chemotherapy. The patient's battle will no doubt be properly inspirational to cancer sufferers; for the rest of us, though, it is pretty frightening.

It is hardly a relief when the film interoutes memory scenes of Champion on horseback, excessively lyrical and backed by overwrought music that does less than credit to the admirable Carl Davis. If we are called upon to share Champion's agonies, we share his victory too, in what must be one of the best-shot climaxes in racing pictures, capturing both the exhilaration and the ordeal (for men and mounts) of the Aintree courses.

Carlos Saura's Carmen, premiered at last year's Cannes Festival, follows the same formula as his *Blood Wedding* – the progressive creation of a ballet by Antonio Gades, with Laura del Sol as principal dancer. In this case the ballet is an inventive flamenco adaptation of Bizet, and produces some spectacular set-pieces: the fight in the tobacco factory, and Gades's farucca. Saura has however unwisely diluted the fascination, of watching the evolution of an artwork, with a rather childish notion of having life imitate art – the love affair of the choreographer and his Carmen follows the same tragic course as Merimée's tale of passion and murder.

Beyond the Brooklyn Bridge and Street Fleet are unpretentious, old-fashioned, undemanding and quite likable comedies. The first, directed by Menahem Golan, written by the late Arnold Somkin and premièred in Tel Aviv, is traditional Jewish farce. Elliott Gould is the boy who falls in love with a *shiksa* (Margot Hemingway); Sid Caesar (in what is easily his funniest film performance) is Uncle Benjamin, the tribal head who brings economic sanctions to bear to try to keep his nephew in the community. Others in an appealing cast include Shelley Winters, Carol Kane, Burt Young and Francine Beers.

Street Fleet is more New York knockabout, relating the fortunes and misfortunes of a struggling cab company. The shocking ragbag of misfits it employs discover they have at least *esprit de corps*, which enables them to bring to book both a gang of kidnappers and the local hack inspector. The writer-director was Joel Schumacher.

John Carpenter's latest film, Christine, is from a story by Stephen King, whose formula for terror is to endow inanimate things (a hotel in *The Shining*; here a motor car) with demonic personality. The idea of Christine the killer-car, pathologically possessive of her owners, proves incapable of development enough to stretch to a 100-minute film, and *Christine* has some lethargic and predictable passages. Things liven up in the holocaust, and whenever Robert Prosky hits the screen as a foul-mouthed old curmudgeon of a garage proprietor.

Acceptable Levels, directed by John Davies, co-director of *Maeve*, deals like that film with Belfast. Its theme is the obstacles (mostly self-made) which prevent an English television crew from reporting the truth as they witness it. Despite the contributions of six credited screenwriters, the film, rather like *Maeve*, is fatally diffuse.

David Robinson

Opera

Rinaldo
Metropolitan, New York

Handel had never been given by the Metropolitan Opera, an historical gap which was remedied when *Rinaldo* entered the repertory. The production, seen in Ottawa in 1982, was a loan from the National Arts Centre of Canada. If the history of Handel performance in the past fifty years has been of a gradual progress from a corrupted edition towards what could be termed a relatively straightforward representation of a given work, then the Met, through the condition of its loan, has copied history.

Rinaldo, which exists in two versions (those of 1711 and 1731), has been refashioned in an edition by Martin Katz which, put simply, conflates the two, moves arias around, suppresses *da capo* sections and inserts numbers from other operas. The most obvious changes are the decision to move Rinaldo's "Cara sposa" so that it closes the second act (thus giving Marilyn Horne two curtain arias), and the interpolation of the "battle" music into her final aria "Or la tromba".

The producer, Frank Corsaro, filled the stage with action, some of intrusive, but wisely allowed the singers the stage for their vocal moments. Eugene Collins's choreographing of the battle scene for acrobats, coupled with Horne's performance of the trumpet aria, rightly brought down the house, but what I missed in the production was spectacle. *Rinaldo* was Handel's gage flung at the London public to get their attention, and if there is a theatre that could reproduce the kind of thunder and lightning and flying machines he calls for that theatre is the Met. Yet what may have been effective in Ottawa was less gripping here, despite lots of smoke, one dragon and some stage effects.

Although the production was created for Marilyn Horne, she was not vocally outstanding. For whatever reason, she was not in good voice, and struggled most of the evening under the pitch, which affected her usually secure rhythmic and coloratura sense, and which made her slow traversal of "Cara sposa" an ordeal. But she gathered herself for an impressive "Or la tromba".

There is probably no more effective bravura entrance aria than Argante's "Sibilar", and it was fitting that this was Samuel Ramey's debut in the house. He instantly became the Met's premier *basso cantante* and garnered the evening's ovations.

Mark Negin's sets were clunky and nondescript; his costumes resplendent. The conductor, Mario Bernardi, never enhanced Handel's writing; his reading lacked urgency, musical line and, finally, a sense of style. The orchestra responded with some of the most lacklustre playing I have heard from them.

Patrick J. Smith

Television

Chance to go public

leven-year-old Michael Light, iid his parents, fancied public :hool through reading Enid ;lyton and *Goodbye Mr Chips*. lichael himself said "the ublic schoolboy is cleverer to ie than normal schoolboys". hanks to the Government ssisted Places Scheme, now iree years old. Michael is ursuing excellence as he sees it t St Bees, Cumbria, a school stablished in 1583 and now co-ducational.

BBC2's **Forty Minutes** fol-)wed Michael there and irough his first term. It also atched the progress of 13-year-ld Kathleen Roberts, whose ither's dying wish that she be ducated at the school was :alized by the scheme, and usannah Wright, 11, whose arents, both former State chool teachers, run a small ottery business.

Michael's father, who has five ther children, is a semi-skilled ,orker in a Barrow shipyard. le favours corporal punishment, which St Bees has. Michael's presence at the school, which charges £4,000 a year for boarders and £2,700 for day pupils, costs him £150 a term.

The scheme is controversial. One critic, Mr John Rae, headmaster of Westminster School, has remarked that it is "trying to deal with a famine by paying for a few children to have tea at the Ritz". The Cumbrian director of education, Mr Peter Boulter, said he thought it implied that, if parents wanted a good education for their children, private education should be preferred – "one system for people who can pay, another for the peasants".

Mr Malcolm Thyne, headmaster of St Bees, thought it good. If comprehensives could not afford books it was deplorable, but problems in one area should not deter advances in another. St Bees thrives, with a record number of pupils. Michael, after a restless first term, did better in his examinations than expected. Kathleen showed great improvement and Susannah was third in her form.

Harry Weisbloom's sharp little programme reminded us of this educational sideshow without prejudice. The scheme, seven out of ten of whose beneficiaries come from fee-paying schools, has 6,000 unfilled places a year. It is meant to give choice and will cost the taxpayer £17m this year. If taxpayers had a choice, one wonders if they would choose this way of allocating scarce resources.

Dennis Hackett

Operetta

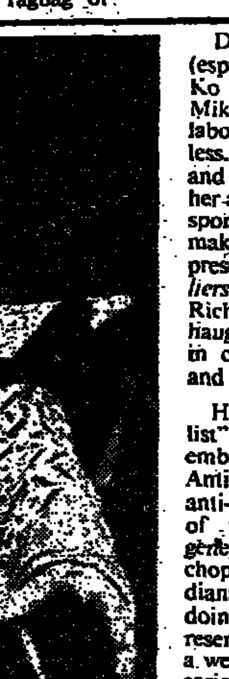
The Mikado
Old Vic

February 29, birthday of the hapless Frederic in *Pirates* (who would now be a centenarian of 32), was a suitably Gilbertian day for Ed Mirvish to unveil the first home-grown Canadian production at his reopened Old Vic. Searchlights scanned the skies over the Waterloo Road and the gala opening was graced by the presence of Princess Anne in a peach-coloured robe that had more than a touch of the Japanese about it.

Even in this setting, Brian Macdonald's Stratford Ontario production still looked spectacular. And is a rare pleasure, not least for word-audibility's sake, to hear Gilbert and Sullivan in a theatre roughly the size of the old Savoy.

Perhaps because of Stratford's layout there is virtually no permanent set, but Susan Benson's magnificent, seemingly pristine costumes fill the stage with brilliant draperies fit to gladden the heart of Gilbert, who dressed half his original cast in genuine antique kimonos. Tumblers and dancers, rather too frequently, bring on bamboo decks, a cherry tree, or a bonzai for Ko-Ko to perch in like his "little tom-tit". A huge disc descends for Yum-Yum's "The sun whose rays", its lighting melting from gold into silver as she recalls that the moon, too, is her sister.





Emperor all-sublime – Avo Kittask

Equally impressive is Mr Macdonald's choreography, launching the show with a superbly drilled male chorus, timing their fan movements to a split second, greeting Ko-Ko's opening solo with busy bows of congratulation or fanning themselves gravely to cover applause for themselves. They also sing stirringly – which brings me, regretfully, to the music.

Without committing a wholesale rape on the lines of the Jo Papp *Pirates of Penzance* score, Berthold Carriere has "arranged" Sullivan, touching up the orchestration like an art restorer improving an Old Master. Why? For every witty touch there are dozens that offend, including a tastelessly tinkly "All is right as right can be" and orchestral additions to the Act II madrigal which the director mauls further by staging it as a clattering tea-ceremony.

Despite the comic gifts of (especially) Eric Donkin as Ko-Ko and Avo Kittask as the Mikado, the fun tends to be laboured and curiously charmless. The muse of comedy is coy and sometimes dislikes having her arm twisted. The apparently spontaneous mischief that makes Christopher Renshaw's present Sadler's Wells *Gondoliers* so delightful is absent. Richard McMillan's ramrod-haughty Pooh-Bah is an exercise in camp, whose yowls, snorts and clicks achieve little.

Happily, Mr Donkin's "little list" song works a treat, crisply embellished with updatings. Anti-monarchists (of course), anti-Mirvishists, the assassins of the D'Oyly Carte (how generous) are noted for the chop; even xenophobic Canadians and comic baritones doing their best. Unnervingly resembling the Japanese wife of a well-known West End impresario, Marie Baron's Yum-Yum flutters with enchanting weightlessness into the arms of John Keane's spirited and sometimes very euphonious Nanki-Poo.

And, arriving magnificently in a vast chest that opens to give him a regal background, Mr Kittask's all-sublime emperor is a fusion of tyrant and incurable humorist with which only Timothy West's Stalin can stand comparison. The punishments this Mikado might devise for heavy-handed comic producers and musical arrangers would be a jape indeed.

Anthony Masters

Concert

Lontano/Martinez
St John's

Following their much vaunted, and as it turned out vauntable, performce of the 74-year-old Minna Keal's Symphony three weeks ago, the Society for the Promotion of New Music returned on Wednesday to the quieter duty of helping fledgling composers of lesser years. Only one of the five represented in this programme, Judith Weir, has so far made much of a mark, and perhaps it was inevitable that her piece was the most thoroughly composed.

Called *Several Concertos*, it was a trio in which each of the instruments shone for a movement: the cello large and rhapsodic (it was clever planning to make this the only appearance of a string instument in the whole concert, and so enhance its expressive amplitude) where the piano was mercurial and the piccolo surprisingly plaintive. There was wit here too, as well as strong character.

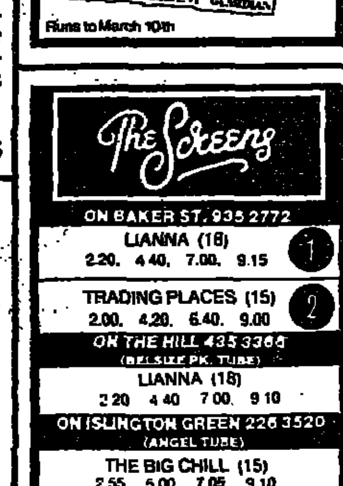
Of the rest, Erika Fox's *Quasi una cadenza* worked the E flat clarinet towards an excruciatingly penetrating scream at the top of its range, and Avril Anderson's *The Grass Harp* played appealing games in bringing four wind instruments into and out of a single quick-moving musical line, strident in rhythm and sonority.

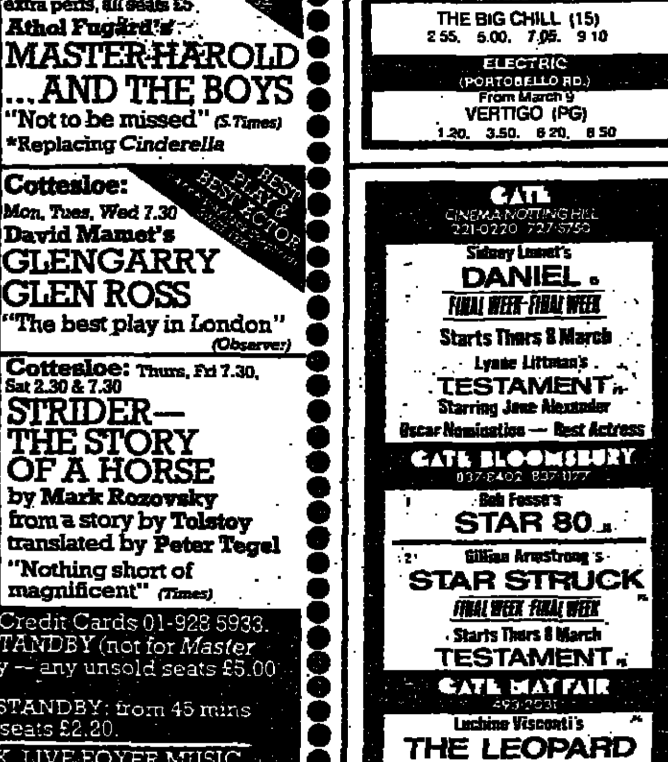
The gentler things came from the men. Andrew Vores's contribution was a set of *Five Fantasias on Two Laments*, allowing dissonant harmonies, counterpoints and elaborations to stray around "Ye banks and braes" and an Irish folksong. It boasted fine singing from Mary King and imaginative playing from Lontano under Odaline de la Martinez, but the purpose of so much wistfulness was obscure.

Richard Hughes's Basho meditation *Summer Grasses* was shorter and more decisively structured, as well as being beautifully designed in colours of sparkling percussion around flute and voice supported by electric organ. This was his professional debut: next time he could well try something harder.

Paul Griffiths



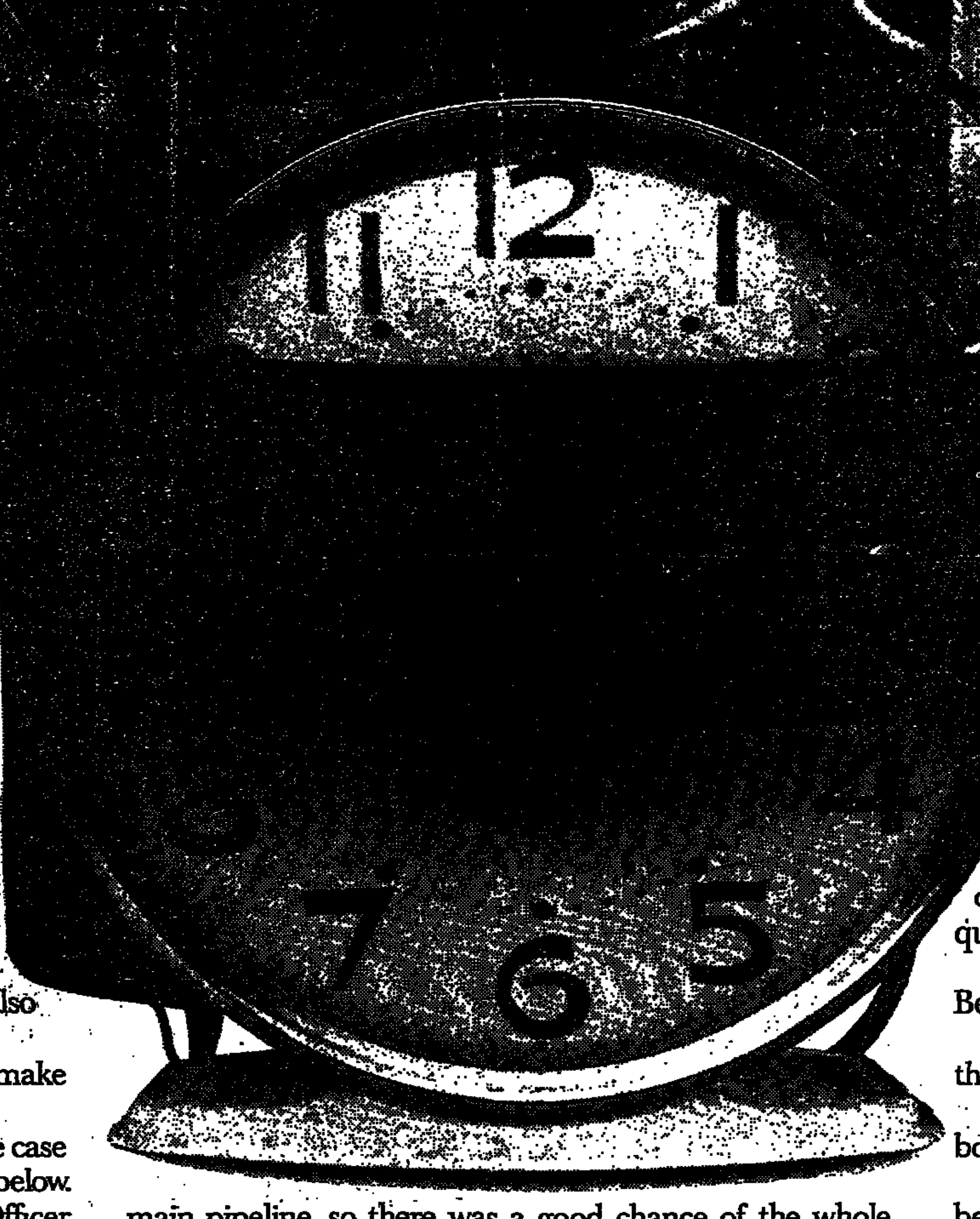




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"Capt. Stephens, there's something for you at left luggage."



You might reasonably argue that bomb disposal is just about the worst job in the world.

And that any man who volunteers for such a precarious activity seriously needs his head examined.

Mark Stephens* would disagree.

He volunteered in 1969, shortly after joining the Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

(He could have chosen a specialisation like Management Sciences or Automatic Data Processing, but instead he chose bomb disposal.)

He hasn't lost a wink of sleep over his decision since.

"Basically, I think people over-estimate the dangers of the job," Stephens calmly explains.

"They have a picture in their minds of some poor soul snipping at wires while a bomb ticks away beneath him. In reality, that kind of situation is very rare.

These days, we usually neutralise a bomb with the aid of advanced technology. And from a safe distance, I assure you."

To master this technology, Stephens spent a year attending the Ammunition Technical Officers course.

For the first six months he studied at the Royal Military College of Science – maths, physics, chemistry, electronics and fuel technology.

All to first year University standard.

Then, on to the Army School of Ammunition to learn the practicalities of handling explosives.

Not just bombs and incendiary devices, but also ammunition, mines and guided missiles.

He studied their composition and the means to make them safe.

He also studied the means to blow them up (in the case of bombs) with devices like the 'wheelbarrow,' pictured below.

As a fully-fledged Ammunition Technical Officer, Stephens took charge of an Explosive Ordnance Disposal team covering the West of England.

Needless to say, much of his two year posting was taken up with cases of mistaken identity.

"I've spent quite a few hours in railway stations and left luggage offices, often in the middle of the night," Stephens recalls.

"Most of the incidents were false alarms, but you always have to assume they're real.

I've even sent in the 'wheelbarrow' to dispose of a bag of apples before now."

During this time, he also had to deal with a number of 'live' bombs.

An interesting case occurred when he was called to an oil refinery in South Wales. An incendiary device had been discovered in a hut used as a flammable chemicals store.

"Unfortunately, the hut [illegible] was right next to the main pipeline, so there was a good chance of the whole refinery going up.

The first priority was to attach a hook and line to the device and drag it out of the immediate danger area.

We accomplished that pretty quickly but then had a tense wait in case a delayed action mechanism had been triggered.

It hadn't, so we neutralised it with a controlled explosion.

Standard procedure was then to search the area for other bombs.

We eventually found a suitcase hidden in a large dustbin.

After much yanking and pulling with the hook and line we got it open and examined the contents through a telescope.

Panic over.

It was full of fancy dress clothing."

Equipping the Army.

Although Mark Stephens volunteered for bomb disposal in 1969, he didn't attend the Ammunition Technical Officers course until 1975.

During the intervening years he gained a thorough grounding in the workings of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

In short, the main job of an Officer in the RAOC is to supply the needs of every soldier in the Army.

From the vehicle he drives and the food he eats, right down to the boots he wears.

Stephens' first posting in this capacity was to Cyprus, as part of the United Nations peace-keeping force.

"I fell right in at the deep end," he says.

"I'd spent seven months learning how to keep a British soldier happy, only to find myself also catering for the needs of the other six armies in the UN force.

I had to provide them with things like coal and wood for saunas.

I even had to organise the baking of twenty different types of bread."

After six months, Stephens was posted back to the UK where he was asked to head a climbing expedition in the Alps.

He set off for the Matterhorn, but on arrival found the weather unreliable.

During a particularly bad spell he settled down in a local bar to await an improvement.

"The television was on and the first thing we saw was pictures of Turkish troops parachuting into Cyprus.

Ten days later I was back in my old job, wearing a United Nations uniform.

It was business as usual, apart from a few shell holes here and there."

Preparing for war.

In 1978, after finishing his two year tour of duty in bomb disposal, Mark Stephens was posted to Germany.

He joined a team whose job it was to review contingency plans for the re-supplying of British troops in the event of war.

This entailed planning a continuous flow of ammunition, fresh food, fuel and clothing for the 50,000 soldiers of the British Corps. Plus the 40,000 Territorials that would quickly arrive.

Their plan covered supply lines that ran back to Belgium and the UK.

And involved the co-ordinated efforts of the RAOC, the Royal Corps of Transport and the front line troops.

"At the outset, the logistical problems were mind-boggling," Stephens records.

"Yet the solutions you are expected to produce have to be very simple.

We work on the premise that, in war time, what can go wrong will go wrong. So we avoid complications at all costs."

The task completed, Mark Stephens returned to his role as an Ammunition Technical Officer.

He was based in Germany, and his focus of interest was not bomb disposal but missiles and ammunition.

He was in charge of technical matters concerning eight ammunition depots which housed, among other things, the Lance missile.

He had to ensure safe storage of the missile's propellant, its guidance systems and control mechanisms.

"That's what makes a career in the RAOC so fulfilling," says Stephens.

"The Corps is continually being compared to a High Street chain store, coping with the problems of supplying everything from lamb chops to lamp shades. And to a certain extent that analogy is true.

But when you add items like missiles and unexploded bombs, the picture becomes rather different.

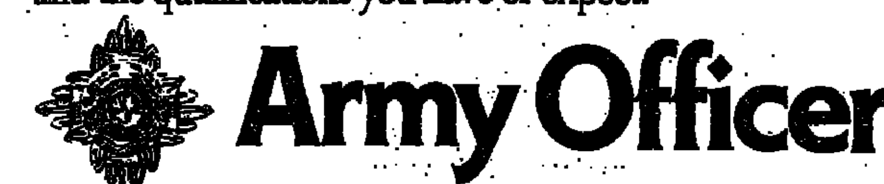
I don't feel a career in civilian life could ever have offered me such variety."

If you would like to know more about life as an Army Officer, please write to: Major John Floyd, Army Officer Entry, Dept. B2, Empress State Building, Lillie Road, London SW6 1TR.

Tell him your date of birth, your school or university and the qualifications you have or expect.

The Wheelbarrow.

The Lance.



*Mark Stephens is a pseudonym. The real name of the bomb disposal expert featured in this advertisement has been withheld for reasons of security.

SPECTRUM

Punch-drunk fighter running out of time

The Times Profile: City of Liverpool

When you arrive in Liverpool and walk those evacuated streets, moving from one blotch of urban destitution into another, or drive from barren housing estates about to be abandoned, pathetically clustered around extinguished factories, to docks which stretch aimlessly and empty for miles, you cannot believe that this is a city with the energy to hurt Mrs Thatcher. You feel it may well haunt her, but it is unlikely to hurt her.

It is more likely to hurt itself. It is a city without resources – about to become the front line in the battle against the Government's spending cuts. In almost every way you can think of, it is defenceless. Liverpool today has no industrial base, nor has it raw materials; it has little skilled labour – the craftsmen have moved out; its docks have been undermined by the container trade. Partly because it is on the wrong side of England, neither bribes, nor cajoling, nor Indian trading by successive governments could persuade national or international companies to save it from their rationalization plans. Unlike



The people are not warriors

Manchester, which has outwitted it on almost every level – the skilled builders on Liverpool's housing projects often come from Manchester – it never managed to set up a nucleus of small businesses to feed off the larger ones, or partly to replace them when recession came.

Its posture, fatally, has been too often that of being in service, as well-heeled retainer or casual and dependent helper. It was in service to the slave trade; assisted the passage of peasant and gent to the New World, facilitated the expansion of the Lancashire cotton trade. Then it stood by to service the car industry; biscuits, Meccano toys, all under pressure from modern industrial strategies and all have slid or are sliding from its grasp. Nothing would cling permanently, not even Tate and Lyle golden syrup.

Once a great mercantile city, Liverpool appears to have lost its entrepreneurial skills. So oppressive is the sense of terminal decay that you cannot believe that the great, handsome buildings of the old days, like the Royal Liver building adjoining desolation, are part of the legacy of the people of Liverpool today. They are more like luggage left temporarily behind by opulent giants of another race and no doubt bound to be collected and taken away.

Liverpudlians may have been fatally undermined by generations of casual employment. Fathers and grandfathers were well accustomed to a three or four day week, so psychologically their sons were more able than a southerner to cope with even more shrinkage. They are not rancorous, not restless people; they might be rowdy in pubs at closing time, but perhaps to their own disadvantage they are not really warriors.

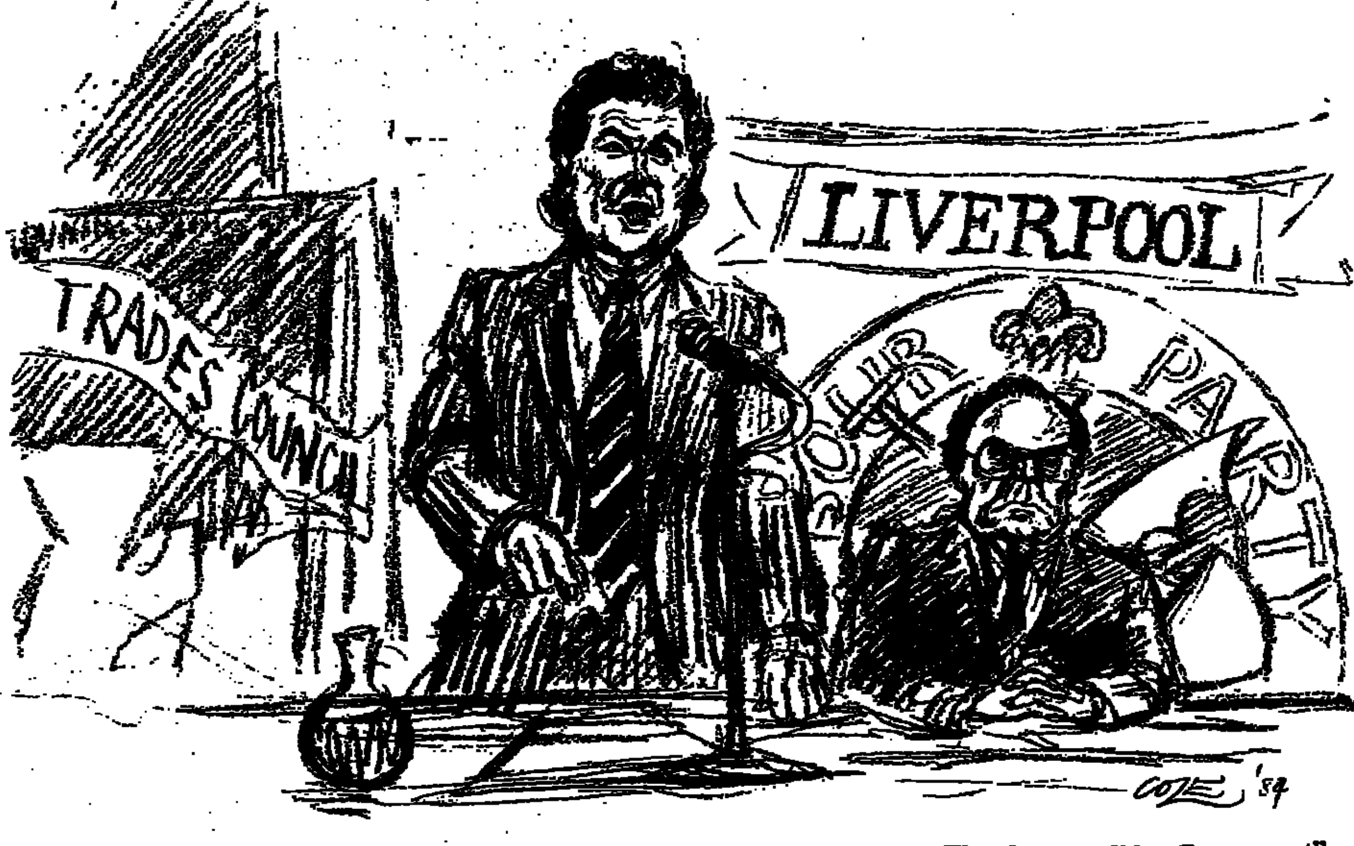
Alan Bleasdale, author of *Boys from the Blackstuff*, described the Liverpool character: "When you come into a room there is that initial aggression to get your opinion across. You have to be aggressive to make yourself heard, everyone talks so much. There is a definite strut until you make your point: then you say, well, that's OK then, I've been noticed. You give up, let the argument all dribble away, and spend the rest of the night having a drink and enjoying yourself." For this there are plenty of handsome pubs; and triple-decker drinking clubs open until 2 am. Disco for kids, cabaret with Scouse comedians, or in some places dancing for the elderly – "grab a granny joints".

Like many people who live from day to day, Liverpudlians have the knack of easy human contact, but little taste for the disciplines and rigours which forge the impersonal skills which achieve material comfort.

Indeed, what is eerie about this city in its death throes is the absence – in its streets and its people – of a sense of threat; the absence even of a tangible sense of tension. You would detect more menace in the glance of a New York subway cop than you would in the faces of these candid and amiable people if you strolled through Liverpool for an entire night. Alcoholic squabbing seems to be an entirely private affair.

Such social serenity is bizarre. It can only be the result of lethargy or a kind of incurable innocence which cannot tell the difference between profound urban decay and seasonal crisis. While the official unemployment figure for "travel to work in the Liverpool area" is around 22 per cent, in 1981 the Merseyside Census Digest, breaking down the figures by electoral ward, gave a clearer picture of the reality. For areas like Abercromby, Everton, Vauxhall, the figure, three years ago, was between 47 per cent and 51 per cent. There have been closures since, and there are closures to come. In contrast, the figure for the professional, middle-class area of Grassendale was 14.3 per cent.

Another of Liverpool's problems is that unlike the great days of Boss politicians – Seaton, Braddock (who were indeed a mixed blessing) – Liverpool has now no outstanding political personalities capable of keeping the city's needs in the limelight. When there are marches against factory closures, they appear to be led by the Cloth, represented by Archbishop Derek Worlock and Bishop David Sheppard. Although these men are known to be committed and genuine in their concern, there is a



Derek Hatton in full cry: "Liverpool will be a more powerful force than Margaret Thatcher and all her Government"

suggestion of reliance on old paternalistic institutions.

The present crisis might have thrown up a whirling dervish in the person of deputy council leader, Derek Hatton. Although he has easily eclipsed his leader, John Hamilton, on closer observation he does not display many of the attributes of a canny politician. He appears to have little patience for long-term, coherent strategies. He told me that when he was an amateur boxer going into the first round, he never saw the necessity for having a strategy for round two.

A trim man with a driving restless manner, he spoke of certain victory in a hoarse voice. ("My voice is destroyed with shouting at Jenkin", he said. But he didn't threaten, he claimed.) He declared: "When Liverpool as a city starts to move, quite honestly it will be a more powerful force than Margaret Thatcher and all her Government."

In a phantom city of essentially gentle people, this seemed a highly unlikely development. Hatton has almost certainly misread the willingness of the working class of Liverpool to take to the streets on a byzantine manoeuvre involving long-term high finance. A warning that submission to the Tory Government could mean a 70 per cent increase in rates has little meaning for them, since few of them pay rates; many have to be assisted to pay rent.

Derek Hatton is untypical of Liverpudlians in his taste for the theoretical, the obstinate rigidity of his thinking and the harshness of some of his attitudes. Liverpudlians, whose first principle is to be loyal to mates, did not at all appreciate his warning that those who did not support the strategy would become "lepers".

In addition, contrary to popular belief trade union solidarity is not that tight. Having no work place means little exposure to indoctrination.

There is also almost total incomprehension on every level – among university and polytechnic students I spoke to, professional people, men in pubs – as to just what bankruptcy would mean. Those who were willing to wrestle with its complexities (the majority treated it as none of their affair) were sceptical that politicians, Conservative or Labour, who have been unable to stop Liverpool rotting for decades would be galvanized into remedial action by a *technical* bankruptcy which opens a Pandora's box of untested possibilities.

Who would run the city? Commissioners – accountants, in other words. Would they have the necessary expertise or win essential cooperation? It was one thing for a commissioner to take over a single department, like housing in Clay Cross, administering relatively simple plans already worked out. But no commissioner has ever run a city. Would Barclay's continue to provide massive short-term loans? Would banks throughout the country

Union solidarity is not that tight

begin to back off from assisting other left-wing councils? Is this left-wing council about to provoke the financial destruction of left-wing councils?

But there is another Pandora's box which must inevitably flip its lid. The huge and still growing concentration of unemployed, disaffected youth who see no future for themselves. Some believe that the danger is not so much a growth of radical politics. It has been said that the demands revolutionary movements make of their members – simply reading or discussing political theory – is probably too high for Liverpool's "passively alienated" youth. Nor would many of them be inclined to devote time to political organization. The street violence of extremism might be more appealing. What can be expected from them is persistent and pointless destruction.

A survey of the Vauxhall area, an area of multiple deprivation, revealed that, unlike the children of the "established" working class who are encouraged by their parents to see career prospects in education and to believe that school has some relevance, the Vauxhall children had no such illusions. These children recognize that school was marginal to their lives.

One consequence is that juvenile crime is high. A quarter of all prosecutions by the Merseyside police involved children under 16, and another quarter youths between 16 and 21. But this does not correspond fully to the reality, since a great number of offenders are never caught. Vandalism in Liverpool is not just a question of smashing windows. It has been described as "the systematic destruction of housing and social facilities" by youngsters who do not see it as a crime, but simply a way of passing the time.

On another level, the city is pinning its hopes on items such as Liverpool being named a free port, on the construction of a maritime museum, but above all on the International Garden Festival, which will run from May to October. The supposition here is that if you plant exotic flowers in superabundance in the graveyard docks, horticulturalists lusting after blossoms will converge on the city from all over the world and be so irresistibly taken by the wan charm of disabled Merseyside that they will create a permanent tourist boom.

The locals are not impressed by such herbaceous remedies. A citizen gave me his reaction: "One of those horticulturalists was here the other night; I'll never forget what he said for the rest of my life; he said: 'For me, the daisy is the Action Man of the flowering world.' The daisy!"

A look of consternation came over his face at the realization of the kind of person the city was attempting to attract. "If the festival was in my own back garden," he added "I'd draw the curtains."

Richard Kemp, the Liberal spokesman on economic development, also attempted to indicate for me where Liverpool's salvation might lie. In the Garden Festival certainly, but also in some great yearning he was convinced exists in the hearts of people out there for craft work from Liverpool. His admiration for these plucky craftsmen was too powerful for him to identify just what they might be producing, but eventually he said he did know a man who was producing three-piece suites at £1,000 a time.

Finally he had to admit that Liverpool's great contribution might

Sacrifice may be its contribution

be sacrificial; being at the front end of the devastation that the new microchip world will wreak on the old industrial cities. People could learn from Liverpool's fate. But then again they might not.

Professor Fred Ridley, head of the Department of Political Theory and Institutions at the University of Liverpool, had this to say: "The problem with Liverpool is that any kind of political analysis upsets people, it is seen as doing a disservice to the city, frightening away investors. There is a lot of emphasis on developments such as the reclamation of the docks for the Maritime Museum, the Garden Festival. This and aid to small businesses could not hope to mop up unemployment. Even if the whole economy of Britain was to revive, it would not help Liverpool. There would have to be a boom. The only way we would get a spin-off is if there



Council leader John Hamilton

was an excess productive growth somewhere else which could not be contained within London or Birmingham and had to come here. This is highly unlikely.

"The trouble is nobody can think of anything which it would be *natural* for Liverpool to provide. It seems to me to be extremely silly to insist on being optimistic. What the city should be doing is screaming for help."

Peter Lennon

moreover . . . Miles Kington

Ireland, behind closed doors

Last Sunday morning I was standing at the end of the Giant's Causeway, on the topmost tip of Northern Ireland, watching the waves foam and crash over the blackened rocks, which was curious because the sea itself was dead calm. There was a little old man bent over the rocks, putting something into a white carrier bag, like a character in a nineteenth century print.

"Seaweed," he said, in response to my curiosity. "Brown seaweed, very good for cooking. It only grows two months of the year, in winter, so you have to know where and when to look for it."

He told me how to cook it. He told me how to recognize it. He told me that he had been born actually on the Causeway, in a house that was no longer there, and about the other six houses that were no longer there because they had been swept away, not by a storm, but by the National Trust, which had replaced them in safety on top of the cliff, and he would still be talking to this day if we hadn't had to move on to lunch near Ballycastle.

The people we were having lunch with were a pair we had met and taken to at a Belfast party last November. And a terrific lunch it was too, though the roast lamb seemed gamier than usual. "That's because it's not lamb", said Patrick. "It's young goat, only we don't tell people that until after they've had a first helping, just in case they're prejudiced."

Well, everyone's prejudiced about Northern Ireland, and one of the things you have to put up with if you live there is English people coming over and expecting the place to be like Beirut. It's nothing of the sort. Perhaps I'm just lucky, but when I think back to Northern Ireland, it's things like the old man on the Causeway, or roast goat at Ballycastle, that float into the mind. When we arrived at the Harbour Bar, five o'clock on Saturday, it was jam-packed, but by 6.30 it was nearly empty. "It's the pattern," said the barman. "It fills up during the afternoon, then ebbs away. They'll all be back in an hour or so, ready for the evening. The place is open from 11.30 in the morning till 11 at night, when the doors close. All that closing and opening you get in England – it's an awful waste of time."

That's the kind of fey logic which is at the heart of real Irish jokes, not the crude ersatz Irish jokes we've been fed in recent years. The Harbour Bar itself is nothing much to look at – it's the cosy ambiance which makes the place, the roar of talking and crackling laughter from the little rooms down the passage.

Northern Ireland is maybe like the Harbour Bar on a big scale – not very much to look at, but well worth getting inside. It's different there. For instance, did you notice that the barman said " . . . till eleven at night, when the doors close"? In England he would have said: " . . . till eleven at night, when everybody goes home". I think I'll pour myself another pint of stout and tell you more about the place on Monday.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 281)

ACROSS
1 Round of applause (7)
5 Zest (5)
8 Whatever (3)
9 Climber's cutters (3,4)
10 Approaches (5)
11 Valley (4)
12 Particular (7)
14 Body twister (13)
16 Removes camouflage (7)
18 Sworn promise (4)
21 Gangway (5)
22 Copy (7)
23 Drink delicately (3)
24 Facilitates (5)
25 Farthest degree (7)

DOWN
1 Affectedly proper (4)
2 Scene of interest (5)
3 Manual skill (13)
4 Duties (5)
5 Women's doctor (13)
6 E African language (7)
7 Out of use (8)
13 Meticulous (8)
15 Goddess of vengeance (7)
17 Hit hard (5)
19 Vestige (5)
20 In this place (4)

SOLUTION TO No 280
ACROSS: 1 Remark 5 Advice 8 End 9 Summit 10 Letter 11 Stud 12 Hibernia 14 Apple pie order 17 Arboreta 19 Each 21 Pester 23 I Ching 24 Too 25 Stench 26 Newton
DOWN: 2 Erupt 3 Armadillo 4 Ketchup 5 Ad lib 6 Vet 7 Crevice 13 Raree show 15 Pervert 16 Evasion 18 Earth 20 Canto 22 Ton

هكذا من الأصل

FRIDAY PAGE

COMMENT

A subtle approach

A lot of women seem to feel that the process of sexual revolution has ground to a halt of late. It is certainly the case that when jobs are squeezed at all, women are hardest squeezed and, as like as not, squeezed right out. There is also the *disappointment that a movement* which started out with a considerable roar now seems only to whimper. But that would be to ignore the subtlety of the changes that are still going on. The old system may be only just clinging to its familiar and reassuring props.

Take, for example, the matter of top jobs. Most big organizations have now opened one or two turnstiles for women to enter the charmed circle. These organizations have, in fact, competed with one another to do just that. It is also clear that most of the women allowed through are there to demonstrate all the most disagreeable *male* traits. This, in the longer term, will justify the holding at bay of that veritable army of really dangerous women waiting in the wings of power – the women who can deploy *female* skills.

The men are not doing it consciously. Most of them are somewhat older. They are basically nice, with courtly manners, but they are absolutely hopeless in the face of a really determined and shameless woman – something for which their life has not prepared them.

Many members of the next generation of men are made of sterner stuff. They are less pleasant on the whole, but they are not so frightened either of bossy older women or sexy younger ones. They also know, some of them, that talent is in desperately short supply and you simply cannot afford to waste any of it.

Scarcity of talent is affecting women in other ways, too. It has dawned on them that the great majority of men are violent and almost entirely without subtlety or sensitivity.

Women who have postponed marriage, if need be indefinitely, are noticing that a great many of the best men are husbands and therefore officially off-limits.

To complicate matters further, the new *independent women are behaving* rather like men always have; they are prepared to take their chances and will not tie themselves down irrevocably in the meantime.

It is a confusing scene for the feminists. Are the new women traitors or leaders? The heresy of the new women is to admit that not all men are awful and to behave like men in the ensuing and inevitable fight. Perhaps the new women really are leaders of men and will emerge fairly soon in the commanding heights of society. Let us hope so. To do so, they are going to have to purge a few sisters along the way and seek out clever, resourceful and sympathetic allies among the men.

Alistair Mant

Safer flakes



If you are one of the five million people in Britain with a sensitive skin, you will know that some washing powders are *untouchable*. Wash your clothes in a product containing enzymes or bleach and your skin becomes itchy and red.

The National Eczema Society has been inundated with queries about unexplained rashes, and complaints of bad bouts of eczema, after the introduction of a new Persil product.

The "new system" Persil contains enzymes and bleach, though this is not stated on the box, and this has prompted the society to compile a list of products without irritants.

Top of the list are pure soapflakes, though they are not, of course, suitable for automatics. International Stores, Safeways, Sainsbury's, Tesco and Waitrose all produce their own brand under the description of low lather powders.

If the low lather products do not do the trick, try one of these:

- Cool Force – a low temperature liquid from Tesco and large branches of Boots or Woolworth's.
- Filetti, a Swiss washing powder, sold in Safeways and a few branches of Sainsbury's and Bishop's.
- Amway products, available through selected agents. Details: Milton Keynes. Tel: (0908) 614444.

Satisfied customers should write to the National Eczema Society, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1. (Tel: 388 4097).

Beneficial bruises



Pictures of battered children often have one common feature – the victims have wide-eyed, terrified expressions. So when obviously happy children, bearing signs of deliberate injury, turn up in doctors' surgeries, as they have in the past couple of years, it can be confusing. The patients are offspring of Vietnamese refugees, and, far from having violent parents, these children have been tenderly treated for coughs and colds by the traditional method of 'Ti-sha'.

This involves first rubbing the skin with an aromatic substance and then pinching and pulling the skin until it is bruised. Western doctors have been misled by marks left by the massage which looks as though the child had been beaten with a stick or belt.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

The breath factor



Squash players are especially vulnerable to heart attacks.

With alarming frequency, Sportsmen *are dropping dead as they play*. Those who enjoy especially stressful games – squash for example – seem to be particularly vulnerable to unexpected heart attacks.

It has been suggested that strenuous exercise puts too much strain on the heart if a player has not trained properly, or when, unknowingly, he already has underlying heart disease. But a recent report on 30 squash players who died this way has prompted Dr Alan Fowler of Bridgend Hospital, Glamorgan, Wales, to offer a further explanation. It could be, he says, that in a strenuous and competitive sport such as squash the players simply do not breathe properly.

During energetic exercise, Dr Fowler explains, the body releases adrenalin which stimulates the heart to work harder at pumping blood and oxygen around the body. But in order to do this the heart needs extra oxygen. If a sportsman does not take care to breathe deeply, the heart may become starved of oxygen and this could cause a heart attack.

Leprosy vaccine

Leprosy has always had a bad press, from biblical times to the present day, and the latest misconception about the disease came during Princess Anne's recent trip to Africa. Some reports suggested that she ran a high risk of catching the disease when she visited a leper colony. In fact, leprosy, a bacterial infection which attacks the skin and nerves, is more difficult to contract than tuberculosis, which is caused by related bacteria.

Lepers have been ostracized for centuries, largely because of the ghastly limb deformities it causes as a result of the nervous involvement, rather than because it is a highly contagious. Holding the limb of a leper is quite safe.

Dr Gerald Ree, senior lecturer at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, who spent a long time in Africa, suspects that he has had low grade leprosy infection.

If leprosy is diagnosed early enough, it can be treated successfully with drugs. Unfortunately, there is now widespread resistance to one of them, dapsone, and the other, rifampicin, is expensive. According to Dr Ree, the hope for the Third World lies in a vaccine which is being developed in Britain and the United States.

Transplant trade



Doctors estimate that only 10 per cent of potentially usable organs are made available for transplant operations in the United States. But Dr Barry H. Jacobs, a surgeon from Virginia, got short shrift from both the medical profession and the public alike when he recently suggested that healthy individuals could sell one of their kidneys, and he would set up a clinic to buy and market them. Recipients could be sure of obtaining a "perfect match" of their own kidneys and donors would obtain a "free market" price.

There is nothing at present in United States law to prevent Dr Jacobs from setting up such a clinic. But US transplant physicians have condemned the idea as "morally offensive and ethically indefensible".

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

John Cassavetes and Gena Rowlands keep married strife for the film screen. **Marcel Berlins** reports

Harmony behind the scenes



Rowlands and Cassavetes: playing lead roles in the story of a crumbling relationship.

John Cassavetes and Gena Rowlands are a disconcerting couple to meet. Cassavetes writes, makes and acts in films about loneliness, desperation, the disintegration of relationships and the fragility of love. His wife is in most of them, playing roles in which depression, self-destructiveness, hysteria and the inability to cope are the most frequent ingredients.

In London for their latest film *Love Streams*, which won the Golden Bear at the Berlin Film Festival this week, and which opens on March 9, they turn out to be a friendly, jokey, affectionate couple with not a sign of torment or anguish between them. These purveyors of marriage breakdown on screen have been together 25 years, and have three children with whom, moreover, they claim to be on the most excellent terms.

Love Streams is probably Cassavetes's most polished and assured film, with none of the improvized dialogue and wayward camera work that marked his early films and gave him his reputation as a difficult and controversial director.

On the surface, it is a simple story of a divorced woman, rejected by her teenaged daughter, going to stay with her brother, a successful but empty and loveless writer. As with all Cassavetes's films, the storyline reveals little about the true power of the film, which lies in the convincing and moving portrayal of the complex emotions aroused when relationships go wrong.

It is the first time they have played leading parts opposite each other, though Cassavetes has directed Gena Rowlands in most of her starring roles, including *A Woman under the Influence* and *Opening Night* and she played minor parts in several other of his films.

She said: "We've adjusted to each other. I think I've learned to treat him just like another director, not 100 per cent but most of the time. I also think he's got nicer over the years – to all actors, not just to me. But at the beginning it was difficult. You have this loving, protective husband and he turns into a demanding dictator.

"The first time, in *Faces* (1968), I can honestly say it was more my fault. He didn't act all that much different from other directors. I just expected him to be different. When he said things that I would easily have accepted from other directors, I thought he was just picking on me. But as he's directed me more, I've learned to adjust."

Cassavetes, 55, is somewhat at a loss to explain why he makes the kind of films he does. "I would have liked to have made more commercial films, closely knit, not confusing, where there is an answer for everything and it's all greatly entertaining. But I started to make films, and none of that came out. Instead, this expression of dissatisfaction kept emerging."

Sometimes, he admits, even after finishing a film he remains uncertain about the relationships between his characters. "I still don't know what the brother and sister *really* feel about each other.

"My characters are not violent or vile. They're everyday people. They have some money, but find themselves discontented with their own loneliness, their own mortality, the sameness of life.

Rowlands is an intensely emotional actress, marvellous at portraying suffering and vulnerability. Her own life, she says has been largely free from the hurt and dispair she ususally protrays. Yet she has invaded that mental territory so realistically that people constantly approach her with their confidences.

There is no improvization in her performance. She dislikes changing even a single word of the script. "Perhaps it's a reaction against my early training as an actress, when we were told to feel free to change the language. Today, I accept the discipline of the dialogue. It's a challenge to me to make the works sound natural, even if *they appear to be unnatural*".

Where did she get the understanding of the types she portrays? "I'm Welsh", she laughs. She was indeed brought up in a Welsh village in Wisconsin. Her father and grandfather both spoke the language and kept to the customs. Cassavetes was the son of a Greek businessman.

Cassavetes sees *Love Streams* as the film representing the confluence of many of the themes and ideas that have preoccupied him since his directorial debut *Shadows* in 1961. It is, he feels, the end of a particular road. What next? "I would be difficult for me to make a comedy. I think I could take anything and make it unfunny", he says, doing himself less than justice. His films, for all their intensity and seriousness of subject, do not lack humour.

Nor has Rowlands any desire to play the clown. "I'm drawn to dramatic roles. I like their complications. I feel happy when I am working them out". But a romantic film is definitely on the cards. They are busy planning it. It will star Rowlands, but not necessarily her husband. The thought of a Cassavetian *Love Story* is almost beyond imagination. His fans will believe it when they see it.

Caroline Moorehead talks to prodigious novelist Storm Jameson

'Just killing time until death'





Storm Jameson at the height of her success, and today

It is truly hard to be as old as Storm Jameson, the much praised novelist of the 1930s and 1940s, whose delightful autobiography, *Journey from the North*, has just been republished by Virago. At 93, upright, elegant, but as frail and feathery as the pale gauze scarf she wears about her neck, she knows that she wants to die. "I have lived much, much too long. I don't like being old. I don't like making an effort. I would far rather be dead, just vanish away. After my second husband died I was sure I was going to die in five minutes. And, damn it, I'm still here."

There is nothing mawkish or self-pitying in her manner. If her eyes and the lines on her face sometimes contain an expression of almost unbearable sadness, she is also quick to laugh, to underline everything she says with humour, however bleak. "You see, I'm much too much of a coward to kill myself. I admire Arthur Koestler enormously. But I feel I would certainly make a mess of it. I'm clumsy, like most Yorkshirewomen."

'I was revolted by the change'

The Yorkshire of her ancestors and her childhood is important to her. The daughter of a merchant sea captain and an uncompromising but loving mother, perhaps the dominant influence on her life, she grew up in Whitby. "I carry North Yorkshire around with me, the unkindness of the people, their severity but also their honesty." Two years ago, her grandson took her back on a visit. They stayed three days. "I was revolted by the change. My Whitby was gone. Built over. Destroyed."

Yet she wonders now whether she should not "have run for my life, to the North." The view from her modern flat, on the outskirts of Cambridge, filled with ever multiplying identical semi-detached red brick houses, depresses her. It's all very different from the landscape she remembers and loves, with its "bare, hard lines."

It was her mother who made certain that she sat for a county scholarship in Scarborough which led to a first-class degree at Leeds University and later to research at University College, London. But it was her mother, too, who applied the brakes to what might have been a smoother literary journey when she saw to it that her daughter refused the job Harriet Shaw Weaver offered her on the prestige literary magazine *The Egoist* in 1914. (It went instead to Rebecca West).

As it was, Storm Jameson married, a first match which brought her a son but little happiness and a good deal of worry about money. So she became a copywriter for an advertising agency (a miserable experience, vividly conjured up in *Company Parade*) and later the London scout for the American publisher Alfred Knopf. Full of energy, forceful, if only on the surface, it was never possible for her to be anything but direct. She records wryly that a friend once told her she had "the tongue of a rattle snake".

Meanwhile she wrote a prodigious number of novels. "Too many. I wrote much, much too much. I needed the money because I spent it all as soon as I got it." Of more than 50 novels that appeared, she remembers only five or six with any satisfaction, even if Howard Spring once called her "the most important woman novelist in England". "I must say though that I worked tremendously hard at it. Was it worth it? I don't know."

In 1938 Storm Jameson became president of the British PEN, the international writers' association, and for the war years worked uninterruptedly and with a sort of fevered energy at getting refugees out of Nazi Germany. Like the writing, she views the clutter and confusion of those years with little satisfaction. "There was too much of everything. I did too much. I made too many mistakes, of practically every sort. I'm clumsy, mostly in the things I say."

In her autobiography she describes herself endearingly as someone with "the air of confidence and strength of mind, behind which I hide unplumbable weakness, indecision, nagging anxieties, hesitancy, uncertainty, moodiness – inherited or made to measure."

In the early 1960s Storm Jameson and her historian second husband, Guy Chapman, settled in Cambridge, where he had taken a job teaching at the university. What she calls this "late period" was clearly a happy one for her. Two or three times each year they went abroad, usually to France, and stayed in small hotels. "I never, never liked running a household. Foolish, I suppose." The most agreeable thing in her entire life, she says, and something for which she would willingly have given up all the writing, has been travelling "to see things, to get away from people".

Writing replaced by reading

After Guy Chapman died in 1972, Storm Jameson spent four years writing a book about him. *They had been married* 48 years; she makes no attempt to pretend she does not miss him. "And then I gave up writing. I had come to an end. I just stopped. One does. At least I did." She talks in short, emphatic sentences, with dry precision, sometimes adding tart, if affectionate rejoinders: "Some of my friends have gone on writing *much* too long."

The writing has been replaced by reading, no longer novels now but science and "things I only half understand". She rarely leaves the still well-ordered flat, with its many books and its memories of Whitby in the shape of a handsome Chinese chest of drawers, brought back from China by her mother after a voyage as captain's wife, or a strong oak table which she had built for herself at 20. There are perhaps 30 photographs of her husband, in faded frames, on tables and shelves around the flat.

"If a prison cell were airy, with a good bed and a window, it would suit my unsociability, my distrust of people, well", Storm Jameson once wrote. The Cambridge flat may be that cell; nevertheless, she still clings with extreme reluctance, but equally extreme tenacity, to life.



THE TIMES DIARY

Arms and the money

To succeed in publishing these days, with growing Third World markets to reach, it might be worth taking an SAS course. Publisher Alister Macqueen was on his way to Lagos airport, after assessing Nigeria in the wake of the new regime, when his car was rammed and he and two friends were held up by four armed men. The gang made off with their car, passports, money and luggage, leaving Macqueen with 85p and his shirt, trousers and shoes. Fortunately, good friends and influence got him out of the country that night – "Nigeria is no place to be without a passport." Back in London and eager to warn his colleagues, Macqueen contacted *The Bookseller*. "Everyone knows the problems in Nigeria and should know better", a magazine person said unsympathetically. Besides, "the Nigerian trade bodies would be upset if anything detrimental was said". The Nigerian market was worth £12m to British publishers in 1982 and £23m the year before. Money talks. . . .or doesn't.

● Tautology is alive and well on BBC Radio 3. Early morning listeners were informed that a set of Bach variations fell into "two symmetrical halves".

Smoke signals

Hot issues will be the talk of the retiring town of Eastbourne this summer but I doubt that warm weather will have much bearing. *The fiery discussions will be of a far* more sinister nature. Due, apparently, to the "public demand for cremation" the Cremation Society of Great Britain, a registered charity no less, will hold its conference there as "it is of the highest importance that those who will be called upon to supply this service in the future shall have at their disposal the fullest information gained from the best available experience," says the chillingly official notification. Not only that but foreign delegates will be attending so that comparisons can be made between British and overseas equipment and services; technical equipment (experts will be on hand to explain) and photographs of crematoria are on display too. *Eight hours are also allocated to* "working sessions".

BARRY FANTONI



"He could always sell his story to the *News of the World*"

Unholy writ

Rigorous steps are being taken in the PM's campaign to curb farmers' subsidies. Staff at the Ministry of Agriculture have made four separate applications for new stock of ballpoint pens, and each has been met with a hand-written (so someone's got some!) refusal. It is impossible to sign ministry cheques without a pen. Admirably simple tactics, Mrs Thatcher.

Eye for an eye

Predictably, the Israelis are furious about Yassir Arafat's nomination to the rectorship of Glasgow University. A member of the Knesset has suggested they should show their indignation in two ways. First, build a monument to Jack the Ripper outside the British Embassy in Tel Aviv. And then, elect the president of the IRA to honorary membership of the Israeli Authors' and Poets' Association.

● A buffet lunch and tea dance for the over-30s organized by a holiday outfit in Hendon for March 18 has attracted the interest of 125 women and only five men. The company obviously won't have any trouble keeping up to its name – Solo's.

Closet snobbery

The public lavatory at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in The Mall – or rather the lack of it at present – continues to excite the nation's passions. Things are taking a somewhat ugly turn, however. The Arts Council has suggested to the ICA's director, Bill McAlister, that visitors should be charged for using the facilities. "Considering we're the only arts centre that charges an entry fee anyway, it seems a bit much," McAlister says.

In a scrape

Things certainly aren't what they used to be, even for the heavily insulated upper crust. At Dai Llewellyn's Deb of the Year shindig, delicately dressed damsels of distinguished pedigree were persuaded to reveal their expensively acquired etiquette – not by opening bottles of champagne but by demonstrating how to cope with a most indelicate dog's mess. Fortunately they had to use fantasy rather than the raw material. It was all in a good cause though, the National Dog Owners' Association.

PHS

The Neddy we don't need

by Graham Mather

Every serious disagreement between the TUC and government since 1979 has been marked by union threats to withdraw from the National Economic Development Council.

The time has come to call their bluff, take the unions at their word, wind Neddy up and get rid of an outmoded tripartite institution for corporate macro-economic management.

NEDC's structure, composition and aims, broadly suited to George Brown's national plan of 1967, are incompatible with the present government's approach to the development of a social market economy.

Past TUC threats to NEDC have been feints, designed to send shivers down ministerial spines. They have traded on the supposed attachment of British industry to the Neddy structure and ethos. In fact, few businessmen would miss Neddy. Even NEDC's friends admit, with Sir Richard O'Brien, that "the results that have come out of NEDC over the years have not been commensurate with the stature and authority of the members of the council".

Sir Geoffrey Chandler, the former NEDC director general, felt that "by comparison with the standing and authority of the individuals who sit on council and on the tripartite committees and of the constituencies they represent, the tangible successes of the committees must seem small".

In fact, of the little Neddies, only one deals with the expanding service sector; NEDC's failure to expand into service industries reveals a business reluctance to introduce elaborate and time-consuming committee procedures.

Those who might be expected to be predisposed in NEDC's favour appear unimpressed. William Rodgers of the SDP has said that Neddy as it is "has run its course, its force for good vitiated by the partners' use of council meetings to act out formal roles and deliver stock reactions to whatever is on the agenda". Dr David Owen is equally cool.

Among employers, such significant organizations as the British Institute of Management, the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, the Institute of Directors, the Retail Consortium and small firm representative bodies are unrepresented on the NEDC Council. Most have declared interest in breaking out of the rigid government/CBI/union tripartite framework which excludes them from direct participation. Consumer and banking interests, represented on the council, have achieved less than have nationalized industries. All would gain from a broader, less rigid forum for macro-economic discussion.

If Neddy's achievements in recent years have been sparse and its supporters few, for the TUC and the Labour leadership it has been a treasure trove of leakable reports, gloomy economic prognostications and propaganda opportunities. They have been for years the chief beneficiaries of the Neddy system.

In the run-up to the 1983 general election, Neil Kinnock effectively used an unpublished NEDC report so full of gloom on unemployment, investment, unit labour costs, productivity and research and development as to have been unrecognizable to most industrialists as a portrayal of the economic climate.

If Neddy were to go, its useful parts could be salvaged. Little Neddies would prosper better directly under the Department of Trade and Industry. The Economic and Social Research Council, newly reconstructed, is an appropriate repository for the NEDC research effort. Ministers could consult industry or unions more flexibly outside the tripartite straightjacket, as and when necessary in a broader forum – and without the political blackmail which has been the chief characteristic of union involvement in NEDC between 1979 and 1983.

The author is head of policy unit, Institute of Directors.

How likely is Iran to blockade the Strait of Hormuz? Rodney Cowton reports

Keeping the vital oil valve open

The upsurge of fighting between Iran and Iraq during the past fortnight has revived western fears of a disruption of oil supplies through a closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

Iraq has frequently threatened to attack Iran's oil installations, and as recently as last Monday claimed to have done so, though neither Iran nor anyone else seems to have found any evidence of its alleged attack on the major Iranian oil terminal at Kharg Island. Iran has said that if its ability to export oil were destroyed, it would close the Strait of Hormuz.

A complete closure of the Strait would eliminate about 20 per cent of the non-communist world's supplies of crude oil.

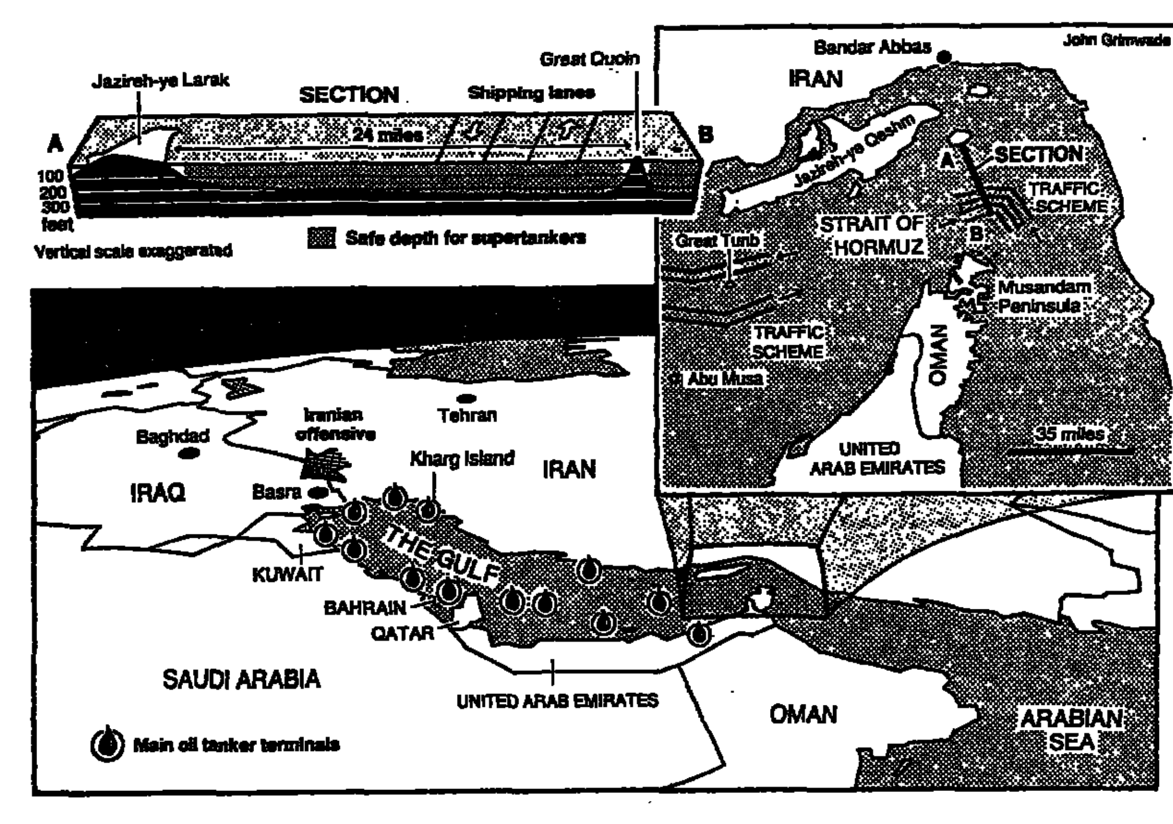
On the other hand, Iran needs to export its oil to finance its war effort, and as the second largest exporter through the Strait, it is strongly in its interest to keep the waterway open as long as it can get any oil out. To close the Strait would in any case be a formidable task.

At its narrowest point it is wider than the English Channel, the roughly 25 miles being equivalent to more than 100 of the world's largest supertakers laid end to end. Any thought that the Strait could be closed by sinking physical obstacles is not realistic.

It is also very deep, for the most part more than 200 feet, which gives three or more times the draught which fully laden tankers require.

It would be possible to mine the Strait, but it is not thought that Iran has sufficient mines, or, indeed, the right types to provide an effective barrier.

This docs not, however, take account of the psychological factors. Iran would only need to say it had laid mines, without actually having done so, to make masters of tankers extremely reluctant to risk their vessels, and insurance cover might well be suspended.



A more likely line of action would be for the Iranians to attack a single tanker by air or land-based bombardment, and this could be a powerful deterrent on other shipping.

However, it would almost certainly have the effect of bringing into play western naval power deployed in the Gulf or in the Arabian Sea. In its most potent form this is represented by an American carrier battle group, with the 50,000-ton carrier USS Midway at its heart. The Midway will have roughly 70 aircraft aboard, including, in all probability, Sea Stallion helicopters adapted for mine clearance.

President Reagan has made clear his commitment to keep the Strait open to international traffic, and there is little doubt that the Midway and its escorts, possibly with the support of two British vessels and one French frigate in the area, has the capacity to do so.

However, western observers have assessed that this kind of dramatic eventuality is unlikely, given the stalemate between Iran and Iraq. The latest view appears to be that notwithstanding the intense ground fighting of the last two weeks, and the gains made by Iran, that stalemate has not yet been broken.

The West has, in any case, taken steps to reduce its dependence on oil from the Gulf in recent years. The most striking example of this is the United States, which is now taking only about one-fifth as much oil from the Arab members of Opec as it did in 1977.

Western Europe has roughly halved its dependence on oil from the Gulf, so that it now accounts for only about 30 per cent of supplies. The major country most vulnerable to a protracted disruption of supplies would be Japan.

One favourable factor is that stocks worldwide are relatively high, standing at about 90 days, though of this it is reckoned that about 60 days' supply are required just to keep the system fully functioning. The US has estimated its own strategic reserve as equivalent to 900 days of the current level of its imports from the Gulf.

There is also estimated to be immediately available a reserve in other countries which could offset roughly half the nine million barrels a day lost through a complete closure of the Strait.

However, one recent study*, which has attempted to evaluate the risks of a major disruption of oil flows through the Strait, puts the likelihood of more than a million barrels a day being affected for more than 10 days at no higher than one chance in 50.

It does, however, warn that a greater danger than a closure of the Strait of Hormuz is the possibility of loss of production through air attacks by Iran or Iraq on the other's production facilities, or of the market for oil being destabilized as countries, worried by a possible disruption of supplies, scrambled to build up their stocks, thereby driving demand to the limit of the world's productive capacity.

*The World Petroleum Market to 1986, *by Data and Decisions, Stratton House, London W1.*

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

A plague on all their palliatives

I must crave my readers' indulgence (as we old-fashioned writer-johnnies say) if I quote myself rather extensively this morning before going on to the point; please be assured that when we get to the said point the reason for the said quoting will become clear. In a column published in this newspaper I wrote *the following:*

> . . . In the 1950s, a new type of rat-poison was developed, and sold in this country under the name Warfarin. . . . There was no known antidote . . . at any rate none available to the rats. . . . So they developed a *biological immunity to Warfarin*. . . . The consequence was that within only five years there were types of rats and mice on which Warfarin had no effect, and . . . these strains flourished more and more. . . . At the weekend, the men in the white coats unveiled a new poison, called Sorexa CR. . . . *In* field trials on farms, rats and mice immune to Warfarin were each offered a dose of Sorexa CR: before you could squeak, there was another cat out of a job. . . . The date today is December 4th, 1973. On December 4th, 1983 (please synchronize your watches) we *shall meet on this very* spot and discuss the recent spate of reports that rats and mice immune to Sorexa CR have been found. . . .

A calendar, a calendar! Look in the almanack; find out moonshine, find out moonshine! It is true that *Monday February 27, 1984, is a* little later than our rendezvous, but you must admit that three months leeway in a full ten years is not unreasonable. And on Monday, ten years and three months after my prophecy appeared, my agricultural *colleague* John Young wrote, on this very page, as follows:

> Super Rat is thriving . . . in the farms and fields around Sutton Scotney. . . . Immune to every commonly known poison . . . each pair is said to be able *to produce 200 offspring a* year. . . . "We have struggled with all sorts of poisons, including one which is still advertised as killing Warfarin-resistant rats", Mr Giles Rowsel . . . says. "All I can say is that it certainly doesn't kill ours." . . . He succeeded in bringing the infestation under control by the use of a new poison, Brodifacoum, under a Ministry-approved testing scheme. . . .

Well, bully for Brodifacoum; but I thought of that, too, in my column ten and a quarter years ago, and said that when we had finished saluting the clever scientists who had *perfected a poison that could refresh* the parts that Warfarin couldn't reach.

> . . . we shall then adjourn until December 4th, 1993, when we shall once again foregather here and drink a toast to the scientists who, ever-mindful of our interests, have developed a rat-poison as far superior to Sorexa CR as is . . . Sorexa CR to Warfarin.

The open-air life which John Young leads stands him in good stead; he will therefore certainly be around on the appointed day ten years *hence*, and although Ladbroke's will not offer such generous odds on me, I think I may yet surprise the actuaries. Give or take a couple of months, therefore, I look forward to sharing with you all a decade from now the amazing, unprecedented, *wholly unexpected* news that there are rats and mice whose favourite form of elevenses is a Brodifacoum sandwich, which they swear is what keeps their coats so sleek and their whiskers so crisp.

It was St Paul who pointed out that God is not mocked. It did not occur to him (or if it did he kept quiet about it) that God might be a rat. But even if God is a rat-catcher I suspect that he is still not mocked, at any rate with impunity. For the point of the column in which I made my uncannily precise long-range forecast was that the rats and the rat-poison are no different from the people and the people-poison. Antibiotics werediscovered, praised, and adopted for general use against a wide range of micro-organisms, which they slaughtered in numbers comparable to the rats and mice which went down under the massive cavalry charge of the Knights of Warfarin and their successors, the Sorexa Halberdiers. But the last laugh was given to the micro-organisms, for many of them developed an immunity, to virtually anything *ending in -cin, comparable to the* resistance put up by the vermin, and just as it has proved necessary for the agricultural scientists to raise another new regiment, the Brodifacoum Light Horse, so new and more powerful germ-killers have been required to deal with the new and more powerful germs.

I am sorry, but I must quote once more from that prescient column of a decade ago:

> If you feel depressed . . . and go to a *doctor . . . he will provide you with a* prescription for tranquillizers. If you take the stipulated dose, you may feel less depressed. . . . After a bit, however, a puzzling effect will become apparent; the pills will begin to seem less efficacious. Returning to the doctor, you will point this out, and he will recommend a slight increase in the dose. You will be much relieved to find that the increased dose is as effective at dealing with the depression as the old, lesser dose was. But after a bit, a puzzling effect will become apparent. . .

When will we realize that Nature is cleverer than we are? Do you remember DDT? It was hailed as the answer to every problem of the countryside – Colorado beetle, blackfly, locusts, potato-blight, broccoli with hollandaise – there was nothing it wouldn't kill. As, indeed, turned out to be the case, to such an extent that all of a sudden you couldn't get a measure of DDT at the jug-and-bottle for any consideration, not even ready money. I did not follow that story as closely as I did that of the rats and the ratticides, so I do not know where it has got to now. But I am willing to bet that just as there were scientists to hail DDT as the answer for every agricultural problem to puzzle the human race from Cro-Magnon Man to Peter Walker, so there were scientists (the same ones, I wouldn't wonder) to hail the new super-DDT as the answer to all those problems *and* the problems caused by the ordinary, unimproved DDT without *the Miracle Ingredient that Makes* All the Difference.

How many more times do Horace and I have to say it before the world will listen? Once more? Very well, then: *Naturam expellas furca, tamen usque recurret.* Or, for any rats who know no Latin and are reading this while breakfasting off a steaming bowl of Warfarin with Sorexa CR sprinkled on the top, you may drive out nature with a pitchfork, but she will always come running back.

Somehow, somewhere, somewhen we must stop believing that the hair of the dog will heal its bites. Sooner or later we shall have to persuade this imperceptibly but fatally poisoned stream to flow in the other direction. I do not know, and it *makes no difference to my theme,* whether there is any truth in the legend that dock-leaves, with their soothing juice, are always found near nettles, with their poison that needs soothing. I *do* know that for many centuries country folk who cut themselves with an earthy spade would clap a cobweb on the wound, and were smiled at by all the *bien-pensants* for such superstition, until those spores floated in through Fleming's laboratory window and proved the old folk right.

These things take time. I do not suppose, therefore, that the world's attitude to nature and its slow certainty will have changed entirely within the next ten years. But I cordially invite you, to synchronize your watches again and meet on this spot on February 29th 1994 (no, it isn't Leap Year – make it March 1), when we can greet the scientists' discovery of a new and much improved rat-poison with our thumbs to our noses. Light refreshments will be served, including canapes of Warfarin, Sorexa CR, Brodifacoum, DDT, penicillin and Valium. Rats welcome.

David Watt

How the Russians can save Reagan

Last week President Reagan was subjected to a startlingly unfamiliar ordeal. He found himself on the podium of a White House news conference, facing a hostile press. The first question set the tone:

"Mr President, the marines you sent to Lebanon 17 months ago are now being withdrawn on your orders. Considering their inability to achieve their peace-keeping mission, and the casualties they suffered, has the United States lost credibility in the region? Has Syria won? And where do we go from here?"

Given the normal sycophancy of the White House press corps on these occasions, this catechism must be regarded as a shattering piece of incivility. Nor was it a piece of maverick enterprise by some Democrat reporter. It was followed by a barrage of insinuations that the head of state had been fiddling on his Californian ranch while Beirut burned; to which the President replied with a quite uncharacteristic combination of heat and uncertainty.

The whole episode, in short, was the best possible proof of how *unnerved* by the Lebanese experience both the Administration and American public opinion have been. Much has been written about the implications of the American departure for the Lebanon and for the Middle East region as a whole. The exchange which *I have just quoted* suggests that the perceptions that Americans have of the debacle may be just as significant.

Some of these perceptions are implicit in the words which the questioner used: "Has Syria won?" Here we come at once upon the deeply ingrained tendency of Americans in general, and the American media in particular, to see all issues in prizefight terms. The proper role for American soldiers must be to worst an enemy. Why else would they be operating outside the US? An enemy, Syria, has been duly identified in the Middle East by reference to the fact that it is hostile to a friend, Israel, and friendly to another enemy, the Soviet Union. Therefore, if American soldiers retire without worsting the Syrians, it follows that they have lost and the Syrians have won – and perhaps, by extension, the Israelis have lost and the Soviet Union has won.

To be fair to the American public, this simplistic farrago is probably how most of the Middle East sees matters as well and because of that fact, the myth has acquired a genuine reality. The US really has suffered an important loss of *prestige*, and probably of influence, because people believe it so. But whose fault is that? Answer: a long succession of American presidents, culminating in Ronald Reagan, who have fed two fatal beliefs.

The first, which has been in currency ever since the Truman Doctrine was promulgated in 1947, is that the US is, and ought to be, capable of holding the forces of darkness at bay anywhere on the face of the globe. The second, which has always been a weakness of American armies, but has become an absolute obsession since the fearful carnage of Vietnam, is that this task can, and should, be accomplished without loss of American lives.

The first frequently causes the US to put its prestige at stake in complicated regional situations where the outcome turns on factors over which no outside agency has much chance of establishing any real control: the second, which ought to have the beneficial effect of obliging American governments to concentrate on political rather than military persuasions, sometimes does no more than cause military solutions to be adopted in a half-hearted fashion. The spectacle of the US Navy standing safely off Beirut, blasting shells more or less into the void as a face-saving exercise, is the pitiful *reductio ad absurdum* of the twin fallacies.

What happens now at the American end of this story? It is useless, of course, to expect that the Reagan Administration will overnight renounce the Truman Doctrine or shake off the national instinct to try to solve problems by throwing money and technology at them. What is clear, however, is that the President is in quite serious political trouble as a result of what has happened. It is, indeed, beginning to look as if he will be more vulnerable on foreign policy than on anything else in the presidential campaign, which is why Walter Mondale and the other Democratic aspirants have been devoting so much attention to it.

As things stand at present Mr Reagan has not got a lot going for him. It is true that there is now an outside chance that American diplomacy, and American leverage, will unblock the road to a solution of the Namibian problem and a curtailment of Soviet influence in southern Africa. But the intentions of the South African government in that matter are still highly suspect; and in any case a claim to have evicted the Cubans from somewhere as remote from obvious American interests as Angola would not necessarily cut a lot of ice in an American election campaign, even if it could be justified. Likewise, Central and South America seem likely, for the foreseeable future, to cause far more trouble for the Reagan campaign than opportunities for successful statesmanship.

What is left, then? There is not much more electoral milage to be got out of further calls to arms against the Red Peril. For one thing, the American public seems to be tiring of them; for another, they provoke the awkward question: "What have you lot been doing about the Red Peril for the last three and a half years, then?" The logical conclusion is that nothing much remains except to reengage in a dialogue with the Soviet Union and to try to extract as much from a peace platform as credibility and Russian suspicions will allow.

It is perhaps a bit too early to be sure that the President will accept this logic. It would, after all, require contortionist skills to avoid all the side-effects of such a majestic flip-flop. Nevertheless, every report I hear confirms that these thoughts are in the Washington air just now. People in and around the Administration, who nine months ago were the coldest of cold warriors, are now talking about a new framework for the arms negotiations and even, since Beirut, about bringing the Russians back into the Middle East peace process, from which they were so carefully but fruitlessly excluded by Henry Kissinger a decade ago.

I do not know if Mr Chernenko has any sense of humour whatever. Probably not. But if anything could cause those stony features to crack into a mirthless smile, it would be the realization that Ronald Reagan needs his assistance in order to be reelected President of the United States.

Philip Howard

As Presidents, they're great comedians

To consider politics a comedy and politicians clowns is one approach. To adopt it as a comprehensive principle may be going too far. The original meaning of "idiot" was a private person who opted out of public life, and treated the whole business as a farce. But the year of the American presidential election provides, among other things, a grand show of political comedy.

This is not to argue that the election of the most powerful office-holder in the world is unimportant. And the method of election, although it has its eccentricities, is more democratic than in most other states on earth; certainly more democratic than, for instance, the ways in which the British get their *prime ministers. But comedy, and* particularly the wisecrack and cracker-barrel philosophy, are traditional aspects of presidential politics.

I am sure that a potent part of the political attraction of the present President, dear old Hopalong, is his obvious good humour and his deadly way with the one-liners. Remember the stream of quite tolerable jokes that came out of the surgery after he had been shot in 1981. Greeting his aides on the morning after surgery, he exclaimed: "Hi, fellas. I knew it would be too much to hope that we could skip a staff meeting." When told how the others wounded in the assassination attempt were getting on, he said: "That's great news. We'll have to get four bedpans and have a reunion."

President Reagan sent a characteristically jovial message to the Hollywood Academy Awards coronation ceremony on the following evening. Introducing it, Johnny Carson said: "I was tempted to call him and ask if he had any more of those one-liners I could use."

But even less professional comedians have felt the need as President to make wisecracks. Gerry Ford, taunted by Lyndon Johnson for having played football too long without a helmet, turned up for a speech with his old college football helmet. When the flaps didn't fit over his ears, he grinned, and said that it was because "heads tend to swell in Washington". After Kennedy's inaugural address, Nixon met Ted Sorensen, one of Kennedy's aides, and said, "I wish I had said some of those things." Sorensen wanted to know which bits: "That part about 'Ask not what your country can do for you?'" "No," said Nixon, "the part that starts, 'I do solemnly swear.'"

Even Jimmy Carter, widely regarded as having no atom of humour, occasionally had a go. When touring the Great Pyramid at Giza, the guide told him that the vast erection took only 20 years to build. J. Carter: "I'm surprised that a government organization could do it that quickly." Not jokes to have us *slapping our thighs,* and rolling about helpless on the floor, I agree. But they exemplify the healthy old presidential tradition of not taking the awesome burdens of office too heavily.

The originator of the tradition was the greatest President, Abraham Lincoln. His life can be seen as a string of good jokes. The foreign diplomat who found him polishing his shoes. "What, Mr President, you black your own boots?" "Yes; whose do you black?" The two Quaker ladies discussing the contest between Lincoln and Jefferson Davis. "I think Jefferson will succeed." "Why does thee think so?" "Because Jefferson is a praying man." "And so is Abraham a praying man." "Yes," said the first, "but the Lord will think Abraham is joking."

Lincoln was much attacked at the time by the pompous for his coarse, low jokes, and his unpresidential frivolity. He was called a baboon and buffoon. When asked how it felt to be President, he replied: "You have heard about the man tarred and feathered and ridden out of town on a rail? A man in the crowd asked how he liked it, and his reply was that if it wasn't for the honour of the thing, he would much rather walk." Abe demonstrated the healthy truth that it is possible to be deadly serious and still to make jokes. Let us have some good ones in election year.

هكذا من الأصل

TIMES PAST THE TIMES
P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THUGS AT THE TRIBUNAL

Sadly, Sir Michael Giddings and his wife are not the first victims of the unBritish nastiness that has tainted the succession of inquiries into the realignment of the A1 road through Highgate. The disgraceful treatment meted out to them – at whoever's hands – is different in degree, not in kind from the handling of his predecessors as inspector. They, like Sir Michael, have been jostled, sworn at, locked in rooms and threatened. Over a period of ten years these inspectors – not always, it must be said, of the calibre to take such an exposed public position – have faced an outbreak of civic hysteria that, were it not so localized, would speak ill of the nation's capacity to adapt to necessary but sometimes painful change.

Yet the dynamics of the Archway Road issue are peculiar. It does not diminish one jot the insufferable behaviour of the middle-class hooligans of Highgate to recall that the Archway Road building project has been a chapter of accidents, political ineptitude and civil service arrogance. During the decade the Department of Transport has played fast and loose with facts and procedure. Rational road planning is not served by the department's wish to extend the capacity of the A1 through Highgate while apparently abandoning entirely a former scheme to enhance the road's capacity a mile or so farther on in Hampstead Garden Suburb. The department's reputation for consistency was not aided by the pusillanimity of the former Transport Secretary Mr Rodgers in the face of (Labour-supported) protest. It is never likely to win prizes for open government either for its wilful refusal to trust the public with its best estimates of traffic on which the case for a new section of the Archway Road was based.

The failure of the series of planning inquiries to produce, for the Archway Road, a workable recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport has contributed to a general sense that the system of public participation through quasi-judicial tribunals in contested road or building schemes has failed. It is indeed easy to highlight the difficulties – notably in the Sizewell inquiry – of squeezing issues of national energy policy (which hinge of course on fiscal policy) into the confines of an inquiry about town and country planning matters. Only the skill of the inspector in the Stansted inquiry, an able QC, has kept that show on the road. But while the case for a different approach to these "major inquiries" – various nuclear-related issues are just over the horizon here – is strong, it should not spill over, yet, into dismay at the conduct of all planning tribunals.

Yet, recent inquiries such as the M40 extension have presented a worrying picture of the state appearing to pay only lip service to the involvement of the public in proceedings. But the planning inquiry, for road building, remains a rough and ready solution to the vexed problem of giving the public a say (when they are likely to disagree profoundly with the destruction of their homes or fields) in decision-making by ministers who, in theory at least, must place local interest within the canvas of national transport policy. It is an imperfect system, not embellished by the sometimes cynical manipulation of evidence by either side. The position of ministers as both judge and jury in their own cause will always provoke public suspicion, however open-minded ministers are when they receive inspectors' reports.

There is scope for improvement in the conduct of these tribunals and the fifteen or so months which it ought to take the Department of Transport to reconvene the Archway inquiry should be well used. The Lord Chancellor's office may have a role in tightening the rules for the presentation of evidence and hearing witnesses. The inspectorial terms of reference need to be wider, to admit the broad picture of traffic and transport in the capital; the government's case for a new road deserves the fullest exposition. Most important, Sir Michael's successor deserves not just a better-prepared brief but the fullest personal protection. To allow thugs further to disrupt decision making would be intolerable.

A SALUTE TO THE BALLOT PAPER

The government's decision to send observers to the March 25 presidential elections in El Salvador will be predictably criticized and predictably defended, and neither side of the House will be able to display much conviction. The elections will take place because the calendar is fixed, and we will send observers because we are the allies of the United States, and because we sent observers last time. The Government's case would be more plausible if it took a closer and more consistent interest in Central America and the Caribbean – it shows no signs of acting on the select committee's recommendations to restore and increase our representation in the area – and the Opposition's arguments would be more convincing if they did not ignore so many of the issues at stake.

The last elections were rapidly overshadowed by the Falklands war, and the reports of observers received little publicity. It should be remembered that in turnout and in spirit they greatly exceeded expectations, and the mechanistic explanations of the Left – that it was an obligatory vote, that the citizen needed the stamp on his identity card – were not convincing. The impression was that the ordinary Salvadorah decidedly wanted peace, and hoped that voting would somehow bring it. The elections were a defeat for the guerrillas.

They were not, however, a victory for those Salvadorans who most genuinely believe in elections, as they returned to power a right wing coalition many of whose members have no democratic intentions at all. The Christian Democrats of Jose Napoleon Duarte won the elections in the sense that they remained the largest party and got 40 per cent of the valid vote; but they lost power to the coalition dominated by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson and his Arena party. It may have been the case that in the conditions prevailing, where various Social Democratic groups could not participate, a possible Centre-Left coalition was deprived of crucial support.

If that was the case in 1982, there is no reason to think that matters have changed. The enhanced national and international legitimacy that the Salvadoran government might have gained from the last elections has been lost by its failure to control the death-squads, a failure far more damaging than the occasional military victory obtained by guerrillas in some provincial town, delays in agrarian reform, or even the atrocities commited by guerrillas on civilians. They are the perpetual justification of the extreme left – and the Salvadoran left certainly has extremes – and the strongest argument for those outside El Salvador who wish to wash their hands of the whole business.

Dr Kissinger last month presented his arguments against taking that course. Where the Contadora group argues that the conflict ought not to be an east-west one, his commission finds that it is; and where Contadora advocates disarmament, Dr Kissinger sees no solution without greater exercise of force. He finds the credibility of the United States at stake and on that most revolutionaries would agree. For the entire region that cannot be a matter of indifference.

Our sending observers for a short election period is essentially *un saludo a la bandera* – a salute to the flag. Technical arrangements are only a minor part of a proper election in comparison with the basic securities for all that Dr Kissinger also sees as essential to the election. Whichever flag our government is saluting, British observers should interpret their remit broadly, remember 1982, and perhaps find a salute for those Saldvadorans who have not yet given up.

SPANISH DEMOCRACY'S ACHILLES HEEL

In the last year of Franco's life two things were commonly said about the Basque problem. One was that there was no solution to it without democracy. The other was that the Franco regime's handling of it would bequeath to his successors an insoluble problem which might render Spain's transition to democracy impossible.

The second statement has not proved quite right, but near enough for many people to forget the first. Spain made the transition to democracy, but democracy has not yet solved the Basque problem which, with its daily harvest of killing and counter-killing, now looks almost as endemic as that of Northern Ireland. Basque terrorism and the methods used to fight it remain the weakest point in Spanish democracy. Terrorism exasperates all those in Spain, particularly in the armed forces, who yearn for security and order; and in some of them it keeps alive a nostalgia for the Franco state.

Meanwhile those directly involved in fighting terrorism continue to resort to methods which are in the long run incompatible with democracy: torture, assassination, censorship. The elected government in Madrid is obliged to cover these abuses to some extent because of its need to retain the loyalty of the forces involved. Yet it knows that they help to perpetuate the problem by giving terrorism a spurious respectability in the eyes of a part of the Basque public.

The parallel with Northern Ireland holds in so far as the majority of Basques repudiate terrorism and wish to be protected against it. Sunday's election result proves that, if proof were needed. It does not hold in the sense that there is no clear division in the Basque country between a loyalist and a separatist community. Even if a majority of the inhabitants were born elsewhere, majority sentiment is nationalist in the broad sense. The argument is not about Basque national identity, on which there is virtual consensus. It is about methods, and about the degree of autonomy it is realistic to expect. For the parallel to be anything like exact the SDLP would have to be the majority party in Northern Ireland, and thus the natural recipient of any powers handed back to Stormont.

Were that the case, no doubt the SDLP would favour the maximum devolution of powers, as does the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV). What holds the Madrid government back from conceding such demands is fear of loyalist backlash, not in the region itself but elsewhere in Spain, and particularly in the armed forces.

Considering all that, and without any illusion that the problem is solved or even nearing a solution, the ruling Socialist party (PSOE) can take some comfort from the result. In spite of being laden with the odium attaching to central government, in spite of a continued recession in the Basque country to which terrorism certainly contributes but for which central government must expect to be blamed, the PSOE increased its own share of the vote from 14 to 23 per cent while that of Herri Batasuna (the equivalent of Sinn Fein) fell from 16 to 13 per cent. Undoubtedly, the PSOE benefited from a sympathy vote after the murder of one of its local leaders last Thursday. In the circumstances that is significant in itself, as is the high turn-out which confounded all predictions.

The PNV also increased its share of the vote (from 37.7 to 42 per cent), but loses its overall majority in the Basque parliament. That hardly weakens its central argument, which is that terrorism can be most effectively combated not by "dirty war" tactics but by placing real responsibility and power in Basque hands. The 1981 "harmonisation" law, which sought to claw back devolved powers by equating the Basque country with other Spanish regions, was a mistake. The Basques have an unmistakeable national identity, as do the Catalans, while other Spanish regions are precisely that.

Sheltering within Nato

From Miss I. Hayes

Sir, As a member of the silent majority who shelter thankfully within Nato, may I say that I am tired of the ingratitude shown towards America by Lord Mayhew (February 21) and his ilk.

The Soviet Union today is not what it was in Stalin's time, but its stated intention of world domination still stands. Contrary to what Lord Mayhew says the plight of certain categories of dissidents is as bad now as it ever was. And Afghanistan is certainly comparable with the overrunning of Easten Europe.

The Soviets are still following the teachings of Lenin, who said somewhere that at a certain stage they should work through the peace movements.

It is complacent in the extreme to sit back and relax just because there is a lull in events. The price of liberty is eternal vigilance. If America finally gets tired of European criticism and pulls out there could be no greater calamity.

Mr Podhoretz (feature, February 16), don't go home. There are quite a few of us out here who like having Americans around.

I. HAYES,
The New House, East Grafton,
Marlborough, Wiltshire.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Getting movement in Europe

From Mrs Pamela Entwistle

Sir, Your leading article (February 24) on the French lorry drivers' dispute rightly drew attention to the absurdity of customs checks within the European internal market.

The real danger is that the origins of this incident will be forgotten and the underlying practices will continue with no more than lip service to reform.

Italy agreed to take on 850 more customs officers; the European council sets a date of 1987 for the introduction of a single administrative document. These are not the actions of a Community committed to the early removal of internal border controls.

Each of the 10 countries with a voice on the Council and the civil servants who support them must cease looking for excuses to maintain the status quo.

Delays at frontier crossings cost the European consumer some £7bn a year and this is only one of the many technical barriers to trade which result in our being no nearer to a common market than we were when internal tariffs were abolished in 1968.

We urgently need to make it easier for individuals to cross frontiers, whether as businessmen or tourists; to simplify customs procedures and the collection of statistics to reduce frontier delays; and to work for a single market for European products by developing European standards and testing procedures.

These will do more to stimulate the European economy and reduce unemployment than any change in the common agricultural policy or revamping of the Budget to give Britain a rebate.

A good start would be for France to reconvene the meetings of the ministers for trade in the 10 member states sitting in council, which have lapsed since she took over the presidency from Greece at the beginning of the year.

Yours faithfully,
PAMELA ENTWISTLE, Director,
The Kangaroo Group,
Millbank Tower,
Millbank, SW1.
February 27.

Head teachers on probation

From Mr Lindley Bullen

Sir, Whatever one's politics, it is becoming clear that Sir Keith Joseph has a shrewd understanding of our state schools and their shortcomings. It is difficult to understand how the teachers' organisations can have any reservations about his recent proposal (report, February 28) that there should be a probationary period for head teachers.

It is clear in my experience that the machinery for appointing head teachers is woefully inadequate. Qualities of man-management, dynamic leadership and a flair for public relations and innovation are some of the qualities least revealed by the present system.

Instead we have successful candidates who have impressive qualifications and little else, or whizz-kids too young to command respect from anybody, including the pupils.

But if there is to be a probationary period, who is to decide if things are going well? The best people to ask are the staff, but, short of a secret opinion poll, they will be unwilling to say anything negative in case their own promotion prospects are jeopardised. Witness the passion of a staff room and yet the strangely muted staff meeting.

An inspection? Not until a team of inspectors had taught in the school for at least a term and experienced the frustration of sitting on sterile school committees and sub-committees; the frustration of teaching in badly cleaned and badly heated classrooms with few textbooks, but seeing thousands spent on public-appeal computers – could inspectors even begin to gauge the effectiveness of the head teacher.

I'm fully behind Sir Keith's theories because he is saying things which we as teachers have thought but not dared say for years. Let's see now whether realisation will follow.

Yours faithfully,
LINDLEY BULLEN,
8 Baycliffe Close,
Cambridge,
February 28.

From Mr Stewart Lack

Sir, There have been a great number of crackpot ideas put forward in the realm of education, but the recent scheme of a "probationary period for headmasters" put forward by Sir Keith Joseph just about takes the biscuit. It is a great pity that we so seldom seem to have anybody at the head of the Ministry of Education who has the necessary experience to initiate really effective measures. (Perhaps, however, it is the "Sir Humphrey" of the situation who is responsible?).

I do not think that any newly appointed headmaster could be expected to produce the desired result (a) in a few months and (b) if he felt he was being watched all the time; unless, of course, he was a good head - in which case the whole exercise would be superfluous.

It is more often, I believe, those who appoint headmasters who are at fault. They are so often poorly qualified by background and experience for the delicate task of selection of those to whom we entrust the education of our children.

I speak as a teacher of some 40 years' experience – none of it as a headmaster!

Yours faithfully,
STEWART LACK,
Low Garth,
Whixley,
York.
February 29.

From Mr Richard Cooke

Sir, Sir Keith Joseph's proposals for placing head teachers on probation are long overdue. The effect of a weak head on a school is total and devastating. His position is necessarily that of the (let's hope, benevolent) dictator and there must be hundreds, if not thousands, of teachers and many more pupils who languish under weak leadership, with its consequent low standards of discipline, which affect every aspect of a school's life.

How demoralising that situation is. Governments and presidents come and go, but a head teacher is there to stay, unchallenged until retirement.

Of course their professional association will complain, motivated entirely by self-interest. Far more seriously, rank-and-file teachers cannot complain, for it will be their very own head teacher whose reference will be crucial when they seek a move to more favourable surroundings.

I feel free to speak, having left the profession altogether after seven years. Like so many others, I regard this as one of the most important reforms that the education system requires.

Finding the best method presents problems, of course, and will need a lot of careful thought and checks. Above all, politics needs to be kept at bay. Let us hope, nevertheless, that actions will follow the words.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD COOKE,
Sudbury House,
West Street,
Wrotham,
Kent.
February 28.

A glittering prize at Cambridge

From Dr Peter Laslett, FBA

Sir, I write as an individual fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, to protest against the content and the tone of the discussion about the mastership of the college in your paper (February 25) and in others.

The mastership of Trinity is regarded by academics as a particularly desirable position, a reward in a sense for a very successful career in their own profession. It is a distinction which is also an office of collegiate responsibility, with a prestige which stretches to some degree beyond the university world.

This is as it should be. Every profession needs such positions. But we look like losing the mastership of Trinity to the politicians. It is being talked about as if it were a peculiarly appropriate consolation prize for a highly accomplished but finally unfortunate political personality.

What is more, our mastership seems to have become one of the established topics of silly season journalism, which is now pursued all year round by all the papers. I protest against this too.

It is appropriate that a member of our society should now repeat what was said by a fellow of Trinity when a political personage was first suggested for the position in the 1960s. We don't exist to cushion the fall of failing politicians.

Yours etc,
PETER LASLETT,
Trinity College, Cambridge.
February 26.

Bringing death to life

From Mr J. M. Waterson

Sir, Roger Scruton (feature, February 21) has a point. At Blickling the National Trust preserves a mausoleum, and an ice house too, for that matter. In the nature of such places there is a certain lifelessness about them.

But these are scarcely typical. In one wing at Blickling, teams of volunteers are repairing Mortlake tapestries from the house under the supervision of two professional conservators. Mary Queen of Scots would surely see them as kindred spirits. During the coming year there will be twelve concerts there.

If Dr Scruton would care to pedal out of Cambridge to Wimpole, he would find that the Trust has restored the Home Farm, which was completely derelict when the property was acquired in 1976. The rare breeds of cattle, sheep and goats displayed there were seen by 72,000 visitors last summer.

A few miles in the other direction, at Anglesey Abbey, the trust has brought a water mill back into working order and flour is again being ground. The gardens are maintained by a staff of five and the trust welcomes Lord Fairhaven's close involvement and guidance. He and his family live in the Abbey during the winter, and during the summer months in the Garden House. Is this the "dead hand" of the National Trust?

As Dr Scruton rightly supposes, the Blickling mausoleum, which Joseph Bonomi designed in the form of the pyramid and which has not been used since the eighteenth century, is, in purely financial terms, a liability.

Yours faithfully,
MERLIN WATERSON,
The Old Rectory,
Saxthorpe,
Norfolk.
February 24.

Splits at Strasbourg

From Mr Adam Fergusson, MEP for West Strathclyde (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, When Mr Geoff Harris, a functionary of the "Socialist Group Secretariat" of the European Parliament, writes (February 25) of "deep divisions in the Conservative Party" about the future of the Community it must strike most of your readers as pretty rich. The deep divisions are on the other side.

The British Labour contingent in the Parliament has for five years been split right down the middle on the question of Community membership, to the despair and scorn of the (Continental) Socialist Group. One member has actually defected to join the Independents.

And now the Continental Socialists are observing that the new British Labour candidates so far selected for the Euro-elections next June are of known anti-Community views almost to a man. Those views are in marked contrast to the new patched-up party line, as well as to the opinions of certain sitting Labour MEPs who are being pushed out into the cold.

Mr Harris writes, too, about "the possible break-up of the European Conservative Group" in the European Parliament. He should know that there is no such animal. He is reverting to the canard, promoted by Lady Castle, that the British Conservatives in the Parliament, who are members of the European Democratic Group, have plans to split apart.

We have no such plans, as your own correspondent was assured in Strasbourg 10 days ago. The group, of course, would welcome adherents from other national parties in the Community of similar beliefs to our own.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ADAM FERGUSSON,
9 Addison Crescent, W4.
February 25.

Charities and VAT

From Mr Tim Yeo, MP for Suffolk South (Conservative)

Sir, I would like, on behalf of the Charities' VAT Reform Group, representing over 300 charities, to correct some of the misleading comments made by Lord Bruce-Gardyne in his article, "No charity for the charities" (February 15).

The Charities' VAT Reform Group does not have an annual pre-Budget meeting with the Chancellor; it has never claimed that VAT is payable on donations and only seeks to gain relief on charitable activities to bring charities into line with statutory authorities and commercial companies. The Spastics Society's research has shown that there are now 200,000 active registered charities in this country.

Lord Bruce-Gardyne's first main objection, that VAT relief would not necessarily benefit the most popular and deserving charities, can equally be applied to the other forms of fiscal benefit and concession that charities receive. The Government in which Lord Bruce-Gardyne was a Treasury minister substantially expanded tax concessions to charities on an entirely unselective basis.

Nor do we need to be reminded of the "crazy paving" within the tax system. Lord Bruce-Gardyne showed himself willing to extend the haphazard tax system during the last Government by announcing VAT relief for health authorities as an inducement to privatize certain services.

However desirable reform of the tax system must be, it should be stressed that each year the members of the Charities' VAT Reform Group are losing about £10m, money which Lord Bruce-Gardyne himself points out could be used for other vital services.

Finally I, and many others connected with charities, find it offensive that genuine charitable activity is equated with the work of football clubs.

However, I welcome his recognition that VAT relief should not be withheld on grounds of cost or administrative complexity.

Yours faithfully,
TIM YEO, Chairman,
Charities' VAT Reform Group,
12 Park Crescent, W1.

Scientific swallow

From Mr E. W. F. Tomlin

Sir, With regard to your leader, "Votaries of science" (February 25) in which you speak of the Royal Society as having "swallowed in its day" a number of persons of distinction, though "unknown for their familiarity with the map of science", the inclusion of the present Emperor of Japan in that number is unfortunate. His Majesty is in his own right a distinguished marine biologist.

Yours faithfully,
E. W. F. TOMLIN,
31 Redan Street, W14.
February 26.

Farmers under fire

From Sir Paul Hawkins, MP for Norfolk South West (Conservative)

Sir, Why did Mr David Hart (February 15) attack farmers so bitterly instead of being constructive? (I hope he is not even a distant aide of the PM. His idea that a minority can be ignored and insulted is not hers).

Yes, the system does encourage large scale company farming. I have fought this development and the sale of country smallholdings for years. But why not suggest ways in which family farms can be encouraged?

Should not farming companies pay at least the same taxes as owner occupiers? Should production over certain quantities per farm be paid for at a lower price per gallon or per tonne? Certainly I support farmers being subject to planning laws.

But does not Mr Hart know the system has been and is a real insurance for the nation and has given housewives a varied and plentiful diet? Would he rather be fed in Poland?

Finally, since Norfolk often seems in mind when the phrase "destroying the countryside" is used, does he know:

1. Until the enclosures large areas such as Breckland were hedgeless heaths – sheep and bastard walks. Doubtless he would then have objected to the hedges being planted. Now some have gone because farming is no longer with horses.
2. Part of Norfolk is fenland reclaimed by Vermuyden's schemes, and always had dykes, not hedges.

Norfolk is one of the most beautiful and varied of counties. Ponds are being made, not filled in, and trees are being planted by the thousand.

I offer to take Mr Hart on a day's drive from my home – and give him lunch – during the summer recess and show him ponds, well kept hedges, wonderful walks – and I wager he will rarely be out of sight of trees.

Yours truly,
PAUL HAWKINS,
House of Commons.
February 19.

Royal broadcast

From Mrs W. Q. Roberts

Sir, In all the references to the Christmas broadcast one simple fact has been overlooked. The Queen is head of the Church and as such Her Majesty's approach to the world's problems deserves nothing but praise.

Yours faithfully,
JANET ROBERTS,
Stone Walls,
Newton St Loe,
Bath,
Avon.

The Oman contract

From Mr David Leigh

Sir, Woodrow Wyatt (feature, February 25) is quite free to try and persuade your readers that attempts by private commercial concerns to pay Mr Mark Thatcher for "consultancy" are intimate matters best not pried into.

But, as one of the authors of the articles about Mark Thatcher which he attacks, I am perhaps entitled to say that the central point he makes is, as a matter of fact, untrue.

Sir Woodrow says the Prime Minister was "allowing him to be with her for part of the time on her travels: something which was known to the press at the time and then excited no comment".

Mark Thatcher's arrival at the summer palace of the Sultan of Oman on Cementation's behalf, on the same afternoon as Mrs Thatcher's official arrival there, was *not* known to the press. Nor, of course, was the reason for his presence.

This was one of the facts which puzzled *The Observer* when we began our investigation. I am sure your own correspondent covering that trip will confirm that Woodrow Wyatt is not writing accurately.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LEIGH,
The Observer,
8 St Andrews Hill, EC4.
February 25.

Africa's empty larder

From Dr Eric Clapton

Sir, You are right to urge immediate provision of food aid as short term relief to the drought-stricken countries of southern Africa. And equally correct to assert that improved agricultural efficiency should be the longer-term policy aim of these countries (leader, February 15).

Your suggested policies for improving farm production are mainly right. Pricing policies to increase smallholder profits and allow market forces to provide farmer incentives are crucial. Distribution systems for fertilisers and other inputs could be improved, but will not produce dramatic production increases.

The tenure systems in Africa do not seriously hamper farm production, as do the tenancy systems in Asia; so changes here will not have great impact. Providing aid in the form of expert manpower is absolutely right, especially in the direction of adaptive agricultural research which is beginning to throw new light on production constraints at farm level and on the means of improving smallholder farming systems.

But even if these things are done, as you suggest, I think you are too optimistic about the outcome. Africa does not comprise vast areas of fertile soil, nor will the green revolution of Asia be replicated in Africa. The immense ecological variation of that continent would limit the spread of any new, high yielding seed varieties. Developing adaptive research programmes relevant to the problems of smallholder agriculture will take time and cost a good deal.

Finally, your proposition that aid should be conditional on the provision of incentive policies for agriculture, though unpopular and indeed unfortunate, is nevertheless necessary. The leaders of an increasing number of countries in Africa have shown themselves unable to use power for the benefit of their peoples and have in some cases seriously harmed their domestic agricultures, as in Tanzania and Mozambique.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC CLAPTON,
Agrarian Development Unit,
School of Rural Economics and Related Studies,
Wye College (University of London),
Near Ashford, Kent.
February 17.

Cross words

From Mr E. P. S. Tufton,

Sir, The lexicographer who was so unfair to Cambridge (February 24) may have struck elsewhere.

Under Eton, various Oxford dictionaries have defined a blue, a collar, a haircut, a jacket.

But Harrow? A "toothed iron frame for breaking clods".

Yours faithfully,
E. P. S. TUFTON,
70 Perrymead Street, SW6.
February 24.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 1: His Excellency Dr Herbert M. Murerwa was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letter of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letter of Commission as High Commissioner for the Republic of Zimbabwe in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the High Commission, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr Munyaradzi Samuel Kajese (Deputy High Commissioner), Mr Pat Denis Mtandwa (Counsellor), Mr Alex Mazwowe (First Secretary), Lieutenant-Colonel Shumba (Military/Defence Adviser), Mr Charles Mberikwazvo Chitambo (Senior Trade Commissioner), Mr Nelson Tapera Samkange (Senior Tourism Attaché), Godffrey Paradzayi Chanetsa (Senior Information Attaché) and Mr Jacob J. Gochera (Senior Recruitment/Education Attaché).

Mrs Murerwa had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Antony Acland (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

His Excellency Senhor Joao de Freitas-Cruz and Senhora de Freitas-Cruz were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Portugal to the Court of St James's.

Sir Hugh Casson (President of the Royal Academy of Arts) and Mr Piers Rodgers (Secretary) had the honour of being received by Her Majesty and submitted the business of the Institution.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Royal Mint Advisory Committee, this morning presided at a meeting of the Committee at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, attended Receptions at St James's Palace for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh attended a Woodroffe's Luncheon at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly, W1, where His Royal Highness was received by the President of Woodroffe's (Brigadier John Woodroffe) and the Chairman (Major-General Geoffrey Burch).

Lieutenant-Commander Andrew Wynn, RN, was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General, Royal Marines, this evening dined with the Royal Marines Officers' Dinner Club at Lincoln's Inn, WC2, where His Royal Highness was received by the Chairman of the Club (Major-General R. B. Loudoun) and the Secretary (Major A. T. Williams).

Captain Anthony Milton, RM, was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh later left Euston Station in the Royal Train for Nottingham.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 1: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, accompanied by The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, was present this evening at the premiere of the film *Champions* at the Odeon Cinema, Leicester Square.

The Lady Grimthorpe and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 1: The Prince of Wales this afternoon inaugurated a Bottle Bank at Kensington Palace.
March 1: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Air Chief Commandant Women's Royal Air Force, visited Royal Air Force Swinderby, Lincolnshire, today.
Miss Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh have accepted an invitation from President Mitterrand to attend the ceremonies on June 6 in Normandy to mark the 40th anniversary of the Normandy landings. They will travel overnight to Normandy in HMY Britannia.

The annual meeting of the Analytical Division, Royal Society of Chemistry, has been postponed and will not take place today but the dinner will be held. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 5.

A memorial service for Sir Alexander Williams will be held today at 11.30 in the Chapel of the Order of St Michael and St George, St Paul's Cathedral.
Sir Anthony and Lady Haverlock-Allan much regret that they were unable to attend the memorial service for the Earl of Warwick in London on Wednesday, February 29th owing to absence abroad.
A memorial service for Robert Mackie will be held in Kensington United Reform Church, Allen Street, London, W8, at 6pm on Tuesday, March 6th, 1984.
The Hampton-in-Arden annual tripe supper will be held today at Fentham Annexe.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. P. Cox and Miss I. M. Hopkins
The engagement is announced between Michael, only son of Mr and Mrs W. L. Cox, of Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, and Isabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. N. Hopkins, of Transvaal, South Africa.

Mr C. J. Durnford and Miss J. P. Jolley
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs R. Durnford, of Thorpe Bay, Essex, and Jane Pamela, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Jolley, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire.

Captain P. D. W. Garbutt and Miss G. F. Hunter
The engagement is announced between Peter Garbutt, 14th/20th Kings Hussars, eldest son of Major and Mrs W. D. Garbutt, of West Garth, Tollerton, North Yorkshire, and Gail Felicity, eldest daughter of Mrs H. C. Hunter, of Barton St David, Somerton, Somerset.

Mr F. A. Henderson and Miss J. T. E. Maczkiewicz
The engagement is announced between Fergus, son of Mr J. A. Henderson, of Holly Hill, Well, North Yorkshire, and of Mrs Ann Henderson, of Kimmer, Faccombe, Hampshire and Hasker Street, London SW3, and Jolantor, daughter of Mr and Mrs Z. P. Maczkiewicz, of Cambridge.

Mr A. J. Hepworth-Taylor and Miss M. J. S. Oglethorpe
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mrs A. Hepworth-Taylor and the late Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hepworth-Taylor, OBE, of Southborough, Tunbridge Wells, and Mary, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs E. W. Oglethorpe, of Groombridge, Sussex.

Captain A. C. Homan and Miss H. L. D. Horsfield
The engagement is announced between Andrew Charles Homan, The Light Infantry, son of Major-General and Mrs J. V. Homan, of Andover, Hampshire, and Louisa, youngest daughter of Mr G. H. N. Horsfield and the late Mrs Thea Horsfield, of Underriver, Kent.

Mr T. D. H. Lambeth and Miss C. L. M. St Pier
The engagement is announced between Tristan, son of Mr and Mrs R. D. Lambeth, of Little Bookham, Surrey, and Cheryll, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C. D. St Pier, of Westcott, Surrey.

Mr N. W. Lawrence and Miss A. E. Watts
The engagement is announced between Nigel William, elder son of the late Mr W. R. Lawrence and of Mrs Lawrence, of Bournemouth, Dorset, and Anne Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs G. F. Watts, of New Malden, Surrey.

Mr M. McCallum and Miss M. Leopardi
The engagement is announced between Marcus, eldest son of the late Mr Neil McCallum and Mrs Judith McCallum, of George's Farm, Crookham Common, Newbury, Berkshire, and Marina, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Leandro Leopardi, of 79 Enborne Road, Newbury, Berkshire.

Mr A. T. C. Morgan and Miss S. F. Hoyland
The engagement is announced between Andrew, only son of the late Mr John G. Morgan and of Mrs Audrey Morgan, of Brockworth, Gloucestershire, and Sally, daughter of Dr amd Mrs James Hoyland, of Painswick, Gloucestershire.

Mr W. H. Thomson and Miss A. E. Cridland
The marriage has been arranged and will take place quietly in Gloucestershire between William Hutt Thomson, of Haddington, East Lothian, and Alison Evelyn Cridland, of Wickham, Hampshire.

Major S. H. Scourfield-Evans, RAOC, and Mrs D. J. Dzubiel
The engagement is announced between Simon Scourfield-Evans, RAOC, son of Mrs V. G. Ford, of Bournemouth, and the late Commodore C. M. Ford, RNVR, CBE, and Denise, younger daughter of Mrs E. Cochran, of Liverpool, Sydney, Australia, and the late Mr N. Cochran.

Mr C. R. Vine and Miss A. R. Hamilton
The engagement is announced between Colin, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. E. Vine, of Oakley, Bedfordshire, and Annabel, younger daughter of Captain D. A. Hamilton, RD, RNR, and Mrs Hamilton, of Charlton Marshall, Dorset.

Marriages

Dr M. Colchester and Miss J. Miles
The marriage took place at the Church of St Michael and All Angels, Great Tew on Saturday, February 25, of Dr Marcus Colchester, son the the Rev Halsey and Mrs Colchester, and Jillian, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Miles, of Nova Scotia. The bridegroom's father officiated.
The bride who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Clare Stacey and Alexander Colchester. Mr John Lister was best man.

Mr G. Purefoy and Miss W. A. Walker
The marriage took place yesterday in London between Mr Geoffrey Purefoy, of Shalstone, and Miss Wendy Walker.

Birthdays today

Sir John Ackroyd, 52; Miss Margaret Barbieri, 37; Mr Harry Blech, 74; Lady Moyra Browne, 66; Baroness Burton of Coventry, 80; Lord Cottesloe, 84; Lord Crook, 83; Sir Leonard Crossland, 70; Instructor Lord-Admiral Sir Charles Darlington, 74; Lieutenant-General Sir John Eldridge, 86; Lord Elton, 54; Mr R. E. Groves, 64; Sir Cyril Haines, 89; Lord Howie of Troon, 60; Cardinal Basil Hume, 61; Dame Naomi James, 35; Mr T. Mervyn Jones, 74; Mr Daniel Meinertzhagen, 69; Dame Pattie Menzies, 85; Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Richardson, 55; Mr Robert Simpson, 63; Professor B. G. J. Upton, 51; Mr J. P. R. Williams, 35.

London Welsh St David's Day

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, was guest of honour at the London Welsh St David's Day celebration held yesterday evening at the Savoy Hotel, at which the president was Mr David J. Griffiths. The toast to the immortal memory of St David was proposed by Mr Llewellyn N. H. George and the other speakers were Lord Justice Watkins, VC, and Sir Geraint Evans. Baroness White was among those present.

The Leys School

Music scholarship examination 1984
Major scholarship: Nicholas J Pamphilon, St Faith School, Cambridge.
Major exhibition: James S Lewis, Beechwood Park School, Markyate, Hertfordshire.
Minor exhibition: Simon M Abbott, King's College School, Cambridge.

Memorial meeting

Sir Roy Allen
A meeting in memory of Sir Roy Allen was held yesterday evening at the London School of Economics. Professor Michael Wise, Pro Director, introduced the speakers, Sir Sydney Caine, Professor W. T. Baxter, Professor L. C. B. Gower and Sir Claus Moser.

Reception

HM Government
Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, and Mrs Edwards were hosts yesterday at a reception held at the Welsh Office to mark St David's Day. The guests included:
The Ambassador of Japan and Mrs Hirahara, the Ambassador of Finland and Mrs Pastinen, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Deputy High Commissioner for Australia, Baroness White, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, and Lady Howe, the Hon George Younger, MP, and Mrs Younger, Mr Peter Thomas, QC, MP, and Mrs Thomas, Sir Philip Moore, Mr David Howell, MP, and Mrs Howell, Lord Justice Watkins, VC, and Lady Watkins, Mr John Wakeham, MP, and Mrs Wakeham, Sir Trevor Hughes, Sir Geraint Evans.
Sir Harry and Lady Secombe, Mr and the Hon Mrs William Legge-Bourke, Major-General and the Hon Mrs P R Leuchars, Mr John Stradling Thomas, MP, Mr Wyn Roberts, MP, and Mrs Roberts, Mr Keith Best, MP, Professor and Mrs Osian Ellis and Professor T C Griffith

Dr Herbert M. Murerwa, the new High Commissioner for Zimbabwe, who yesterday presented his letter of commission to the Queen at Buckingham Palace. His wife, Ruth, was also received in audience (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Luncheons

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Professor Geoffrey Slaney, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, yesterday entertained at luncheon at the college, Mr A. G. Trower, Mr A. J. Bateson, Mr L. H. Valner and Professor Sir Gordon Robson.

Institution of Water Engineers and Scientists
The council of the Institution of Water Engineers and Scientists entertained at luncheon at Grosvenor House yesterday representatives of government departments, professional institutions, and other organizations connected with the water industry.

Butchers' Company
The Master of the Butchers' Company Mr John W. Brewster, presided at a Court luncheon held at Butchers' Hall, yesterday. The toast to the guests was proposed by Mr W. Howell Maybery

Dinners

Grocers' Company
The Duke of Gloucester was present at a dinner given on Tuesday by the Grocers' Company at Grocers' Hall to mark the bicentenary of the admission of William Pitt the Younger to the honorary freedom of the Company. The Prime Minister also attended. The Master, Mr A. K. Stewart-Roberts, presided with the Wardens. Among the guests, who included descendants of members of Pitt's Cabinets and representatives of the Pitt Club, were:
Marquess Camden, the Marquess of Normanby, the Marquess of Graham, the Earl of March and Kinrara, the Countess of Sutherland, the Earl of Buckinghamshire, the Earl of Mansfield and Mansfield, Viscount Melville, Viscount Sidmouth, Lord Home of the Hirsel, Lord Carrington, CH, Lady Barbara Bossom, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, Judge Sir James Miskin, QC, and Mr J. P. W. Ehrman.

Royal Cruising Club
The Lord Mayor and Sir John Donaldson were present at the annual dinner of the Royal Cruising Club held last night at the Naval and Military Club. The Commodore, Mr Jonathan Trafford, was in the chair. Other guests were Rear-Admiral D. W. Haslam, Hydrographer of the Navy, Mr W. W. McKean, Commodore of the Clyde Cruising Club, and Mrs McKean, and Mr and Mrs Forbes Perkins, Cruising Club of America.

CID, New Scotland Yard
Senior officers of the Criminal Investigation Department, New Scotland Yard, held their annual ladies' evening at New Scotland Yard yesterday, when Assistant Commissioner (Crime) Gilbert Kelland, was the principal guest. Commander D. H. Williams presided.

Eurogypsum
Mr A. G. Turner, President of BMP, and Mrs Turner, entertained delegates to the Eurogypsum London conferences and their ladies at dinner yesterday at the Naval and Military Club. The principal guests were:
M J Poll, President of Eurogypsum, Dr and Signora P C Baisi, Herr K Volkart, Herr M Moldan, president-elect, and Frau Moldan, Dr G Quartara, past president, and Signora Quartara.

Service dinners

Royal Marines
The Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General of the Royal Marines, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Royal Marines Officers' Dinner Club held last night at Lincoln's Inn. Major-General R. B. Loudoun presided and the Treasurer and Under-Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn were also present.

Royal Naval Engineers
A dinner of the Royal Naval Engineers' Dining Club was held at the Institute of Marine Engineers City Conference Centre yesterday. Sir Frank Cooper was guest of honour and Rear-Admiral J. S. Grove, Chief Naval Engineer Officer, presided. Commander R. N. M. Paige, RN, also spoke. Others present included Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson.

Royal Army Ordnance Corps
The Director General of Ordnance Services, Major-General W. L. Whalley, and officers of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps held a corps guest night in their Headquarters Officers' Mess, Deepcut, yesterday. Among the guests were General Sir Richard Trant, Quarter-Master General, Major-General B. W. Davis, Vice-Quarter-Master General, and Brigadier J. Chapman, Chief of Staff Logistic Executive (Army).

Latest appointments

The following Scottish Office appointments are announced:
Mr London P. Hamilton to succeed Mr J. L. Smith, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, after Mr Smith's retirement on April 30.
Mr Ian D. Penman to succeed Mr W. K. Reid as Deputy Secretary, Central Services, on July 1.
Mr James A. Scott to succeed Mr J. A. M. Mitchell Secretary of the Scottish Education Department, after Mr Mitchell's retirement on August 31.
Mr W. K. Reid, Deputy Secretary, Central Services, will succeed Mr A. L. Rennie, Secretary of the Scottish Home and Health Department, on Mr Rennie's retirement on June 30.

Other appointments include:
Viscount Tonypandy to be Chairman of the Joint Commonwealth Societies' Council.
Sir James Hamilton to be a trustee of the British Museum (Natural History) for five years, in succession to Sir Michael Perrin.
Mr M. C. Foy to be Chairman of the Doncaster Health Authority.

Westminster Cathedral Choir School

Choral scholarships have been awarded to the following:
Harry Escott, Eaton House School, London SW1; David Hodge, Keyham Barton RC Primary School, Plymouth, Devon; Mark Holmes, St Thomas's RC Primary School, Sevenoaks, Kent; Stephen Kennedy, St Teresa's RC Primary School, Rochford, Essex; Rufus O'Brien, St Joseph's RC Primary School, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

Latest wills

The fifth **Earl of Stradbroke**, of Clovelly, Devon, who succeeded his brother as earl four days before his death left estate valued at £117,906 net.
Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Clothier, Mr Herbert Wilfred, of Milton Clevedon, Somerset £627,222
Raakine, Mrs Keith Stuart Mackenzie, of Marylebone, London £1,054,065
Richardson, Mr Edward William Adams, of Ewhurst Green, Surrey £450,672
Thomson, Dr William Archibald Robson, of West Acton, London, medical correspondent of *The Times*, 1956-1971 £231,272
Wilson, Mr Joseph Arnold Hexgreave, of Westbury on Trym, Bristol £452,467

Inner Temple

Mr John Archer, QC, Mr David Sullivan, QC, Mr Stanley Brodie, QC, and Mr Thomas Legg have been elected Masters of the Bench of the Inner Temple.

Navy promotions

The following promotions to lieutenant-commander on the supplementary list have been made to date March 1:
Supplementary list
Seamen: To lieutenant-commander: R G G Wood, A J Mead, C J Kirby, J T Milne, K Wyman, K S Manchanda, R A Doggett, R L Beveridge, A J Eagles, R J Hoole.
Engineering: To lieutenant-commander: P R L Sebley, R J Green.

Correction

It is regretted that the name of Sir Myles Abbott, who died on January 12, was published in the "Birthdays today" feature on February 27.

OBITUARY

MR JOHN PRINGLE

Work for schizophrenics

Mr John Pringle, OBE, who died on February 29, was founder and President of the National Schizophrenia Fellowship, which provides support and consolation on a variety of levels for schizophrenia sufferers and their relatives, and is active in attempting to improve provision for patients.

John Pringle was born in 1904, son of a Scottish professor of Economics. After 1st class honours in history at Edinburgh he went on to Cambridge.

In 1931 he became a leader writer for the *Manchester Guardian* (one of the last recruits of C. P. Scott). After about five years he joined the BBC as talks producer, and went on to become the deputy editor of *The Listener* during the war.

After the war he was sometime public relations officer for the British Medical Association until he started to work with Sir Robert Shone in setting up the National Economics Development Council, of which he became chief public relations adviser.

He was active earlier in initiating a charitable society for spastics. But his proudest achievement was the National Schizophrenia Fellowship.

The Fellowship had its genesis in an article published anonymously in *The Times* by Pringle in 1970, entitled "A Case of Schizophrenia" which described a case history and the effects on the family struck by the distress. This elicited a response from readers with schizophrenic relatives which gave the impetus to Pringle and his wife, Jacqueline, to work until the Fellowship came into being, commuting between London and the Isle of Arran "with their office in a shoebox".

Care organization, forum for discussion and pressure group, it quickly grew to its current membership of 5,000, giving the relatives of sufferers and sometimes patients themselves opportunities to come together to find mutual support and professional advice as well as giving publicity to the plight of the schizophrenic, keeping an eye on mental health policy-making and sponsoring research.

Pringle was appointed OBE for his work in 1978.

MR GERALD PALMER

Sir Harry Pitt writes:

I hope you will allow me to add to your obituary of Mr Gerald Palmer a further observation about his service to the University of Reading. In addition to his terms as Vice-President and President of Council, he was chairman of its building committee during the formative period of the planning of the university site, which made possible the later rapid expansion of the university which reached its peak during his own presidency.

His other contributions, though less tangible, were equally valuable and lasting, for they exemplified to perfection the benefits which accrue to a university through the devoted support of wise and experienced lay members of council. His standing in the county and strong local connections helped to maintain and strengthen the good relationship between the university and the local community itself to preserve a general sense of harmony, particularly between its council and its academic members.

This was particularly evident in his relations with students, for he seemed always to show understanding and sympathy, reinforced by a strong sense of humour, which made it possible for quite serious disagreements to be resolved without lasting damage or ill feeling. He will be greatly missed by his many friends.

Science report

Stradivarius 'discovery' put to the test

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A biochemist's claim to have discovered the secrets by which Renaissance violin makers created their best instruments has been put to the test.

New violins and violas have been made by established makers of stringed instruments to a specification of Dr Joseph Nagyvary, of Texas A & M University.

Dr Nagyvary processed the bodies of the instruments with a preservative stain and a varnish that is supposed to confer a quality which has not been captured since the days of music masters such as Antonio Stradivari.

A report called "The Stradivarius Formula", in the March issue of *Science 84*, examines the basis of the claimed discovery.

The invention was derived from an analysis of the chemical composition of the wood used in the instruments and the varnish with which they were finished.

The experts read about 200 books and manuscripts on the way the Italian masters working in Cremona chose their wood and made their preservatives and varnish.

The search for the key to the secret of the old stringed instruments' perfect tone and balance is not new.

In 1830 the physicist-physician, Felix Savart, measured the resonance frequencies of the bellies and backs of Cremona violins with a French violin maker, Jean Baptiste Vuillaume, who dismanted a dozen Stradivaris and Guarneris for him to study.

Savart concluded that a fine violin's key characteristic was the half or whole tonal difference between the front and back sections. It was an important discovery but not enough for makers to imitate the Cremona sound.

Since then scientists have pursued three other lines of investigation: the wood, the varnishes and other chemical treatments, and the construction and acoustics.

The late Frederick Saunders, another physicist, and his student, Carleen Hutchins, measured the acoustic and vibration properties of violin components.

Their work showed how critical certain acoustical properties of the wood and the construction were to a fine instrument's sound. A particular focus for their work was the Young's modulus of the plates – Young's modulus is a physical constant, sometimes called the modulus of elasticity, which is a measure of a material's stiffness. In natural woods there is more stiffness with the grain than against it.

Dr Nagyvary began his work on the premise that during the Renaissance it was natural for a chemist to make music and a musician to study chemistry.

His scrutiny of the literature for the period revealed that alchemists had developed elaborate methods of preserving and strengthening wood which were used by furniture makers.

Wood was soaked in several solutions, including wine and beer, that contained finely ground sand. These liquids have high levels of potassium tartrate and the sand adds silicic acid.

These agents pickled the wood and made it resistant to insects and moisture damage. They also highlighted the grain.

Another practice was to store wood waiting to be worked in salt water bays for up to five years. The procedures for treating wood had leached out some minerals and introduced others, according to Dr Nagyvary.

He says that those procedures changed the wood's structure and gave it better tone-generating properties. The compounds he has developed for processing the wood and particularly the formula to imitate the hard "chitin" varnishes are the subject of a patent application.

The response of professional violinists to instruments made by the new process is mixed. In general the instruments are regarded as of a high quality, but there is more caution in comparing them to the tones of the Renaissance masters.

Law Report March 2 1984 House of Lords

National Union of Journalists loses appeal against Dimbleby dispute injunction

Dimbleby & Sons Ltd v National Union of Journalists

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Scarman, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook

[Speeches delivered March 1]

The National Union of Journalists had failed to show any ground that would have entitled the Court of Appeal or the House of Lords to interfere with the exercise of the judge's discretion in granting interlocutory injunctions restraining the NUJ from continuing to instruct or encourage its members who were journalists employed by Dimbleby & Sons Ltd to refuse to assist or participate in the production of copy or other material for publication in the Dimbleby newspapers, and ordering the NUJ to withdraw forthwith any such instructions or encouragement already given.

The House of Lords so held, dismissing an appeal by the NUJ from a judgment on November 29, 1983 of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Griffiths and Lord Justice Stephen Brown) (*The Times* December 7, 1983; [1984] 1 WLR 67) affirming an order dated November 18, 1983, made by Sir Neil Lawson sitting as a deputy High Court judge.

Mr John Melville Williams, QC and Mr John Hendy for the NUJ; Mr Stephen Silber and Mr Ali Malek for Dimbleby & Sons Ltd.

LORD DIPLOCK said that the action in which the interlocutory injunction was granted was brought by Dimbleby who were publishers of several local weekly newspapers circulating in suburban areas in west London.

The cause of action alleged in the writ issued against the NUJ was the common law tort of inducing or procuring breaches of or interference with the performance of contracts between Dimbleby and a number of advertisers in the *Dimbleby newspapers*, and of a contract between Dimbleby and a printing company in Nottingham, TBF (Printers) Ltd for the printing of the Dimbleby newspapers by TBF.

The method of inducement or procurement alleged to have been adopted by the NUJ was instructing, under threat of disciplinary sanctions, 13 journalists employed by Dimbleby who were members of the NUJ to break their contracts of employment with Dimbleby by refusing to supply copy and material for publication in the Dimbleby newspapers. The relief claimed in the writ was damages for the common law torts alleged and injunctions to restrain the NUJ from continuing to commit them.

By notice of motion of October 25, 1983, Dimbleby applied for interlocutory injunctions: (i) to restrain the NUJ from continuing to instruct or otherwise encourage the NUJ journalists to refuse to assist or participate in the production of copy or other material for publication in the Dimbleby newspapers; and (ii) to withdraw forthwith any such instruction or encouragement already given.

In the exercise of his discretion, the judge granted interlocutory injunctions to that effect and on an appeal from that interlocutory order the exercise of his discretion in that manner was upheld by the Court of Appeal.

It was because this was the first action to reach their Lordship's House in which, as a result of the withdrawal of immunity of trade unions from actions in tort that was effected by sections 15 to 17 of the Employment Act 1982, damages and injunctions interlocutory and final were sought against a trade union itself and not merely personally against one or more of its individual office-holders, that an appeal committee of the House gave the NUJ leave to appeal despite the fact that this was only an interlocutory appeal.

This case was not one in which there was before the House, or was before the Court of Appeal, any evidence that had not been before the judge when he granted the injunctions; so, as was pointed out in *Hadmor Productions Ltd v Hamilton* [(1983] AC 191, 220) the function of their Lordships in this appeal, initially at any rate, was one of review only.

The general principles to be applied by a judge in deciding whether or not to grant an interlocutory injunction were laid down in *American Cyanamid Co v Ethicon Ltd* ([1975] AC 396, 407):

"The use of such expressions as 'a probability,' 'a *prima facie* case,' or 'a strong *prima facie* case' in the context of the exercise of a discretionary power to grant an interlocutory injunction leads to confusion as to the object sought to be achieved by this form of temporary relief. The court no doubt must be satisfied that the claim is not frivolous or vexatious; in other words, that there is a serious question to be tried.

"It is no part of the court's function at this stage of the litigation to try to resolve conflicts of evidence on affidavit as to facts on which the claims of either party may ultimately depend nor to decide difficult questions of law which call for detailed argument and mature consideration. These are matters to be dealt with at the trial."

To the first of the sentences cited, a statutory modification was made by section 17 (2) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974, which was added to that section by paragraph 6 of Part III of Schedule 16 to the Employment Protection Act 1975.

In effect that subsection provided that in exercising its discretionary power to grant an interlocutory injunction in an action to which it would be a defence that the acts complained of were done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute, the court should take into consideration the likelihood of such defence succeeding at the trial.

Section 17(2) of the 1974 Act remained in force although the definition of what constituted a trade dispute had been much narrowed by section 18 of the 1982 Act and it applied in cases in which the plaintiff claimed that the acts of the trade union that were complained of constituted "secondary action" that was rendered actionable by section 17 of the Employment Act 1980 notwithstanding that such secondary action was taken in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute.

Those changes in the law which had been made by the 1980 and 1982 Acts took place after the decision of the House of Lords in *NWL Ltd v Woods* ([1979] 1 WLR 1294), where there was a passage which referred to the practical realities in an action brought by a plaintiff against an individual office-holder of a trade union who had been acting on his trade union's behalf.

Those practical realities, at p1305, were: "(1) that the real dispute is not between the employer and the trade union that is threatening industrial action;

"(2) that the threat of blacking or other industrial action is being used as a bargaining counter in negotiations either existing or anticipated to obtain agreement by the employer to do whatever it is the union requires of him;

"(3) that it is the nature of industrial action that it can be promoted effectively only so long as it is possible to strike while the iron is still hot; once postponed it is unlikely that it can be revived;

"(4) that, in consequence of these three characteristics, the grant or refusal of an interlocutory injunction generally disposes finally of the action; in practice actions of this type seldom if ever come to actual trial."

As a result of the passing of the 1980 and 1982 Acts however, what in 1979 were practical realities no longer applied in 1983 to a suit against a trade union claiming damages for an injunction to restrain it from secondary action which was actionable.

If the suit succeeded the trade union would be liable not only in damages up to a substantial maximum (£125,000 in the case of the NUJ), but also for costs without any maximum limit, and to unlimited fines or sequestration of its assets if, by breaching an injunction, it should commit contempt of court.

In his Lordship's speech in *NWL Ltd v Woods* which preceded the reference to the practical realities, he pointed out that if the plaintiff continued the action to a successful conclusion, it was unlikely that damages on the scale that the plaintiff would have sustained would be likely to prove recoverable from the individual defendant or defendants who alone, at that time, could be made defendants to the suit.

That was what lay at the root of the "reality" numbered (4). At so early a stage in the action as that at which an injunction was generally sought (as it was in the instant case), there was no reason for a judge to exercise his discretion on the assumption that the case would never proceed to trial and final judgment where the defendant was the trade union itself and not a mere individual office-holder in it.

The statutory requirement of section 17(2) of the 1974 Act, that in exercising his discretion whether or not to grant an interlocutory injunction, the judge should have regard to the likelihood of the defendants succeeding in establishing a defence under secions 13, 14(2) or 15 of the 1974 Act, on the ground that the acts complained of were done in contemplation of a trade dispute, applied also (since the 1980 Act) to any issue between the plaintiff and the defendant as to whether the acts complained of were excluded from the protection of section 13 of the 1974 Act by the provisions of section 17 of the 1980 Act relating to actionable secondary action.

As respects all other issues raised by way of defence to the action the criterion to be applied in order to make recourse to the balance of convenience necessary, was the ordinary criterion laid down in *American Cyanamid v Ethicon Ltd*: "Is there a serious question to be tried?"

The Dimbleby newspapers were printed not by Dimbleby itself but by an associated company.

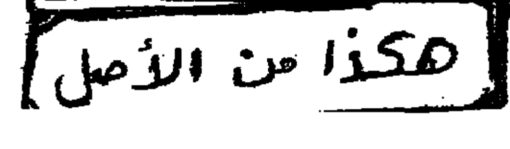
That company, Dimbleby Printers Ltd, had been, and apparently still was, engaged in a trade dispute with a powerful trade union that enforced a closed shop in nearly all establishments engaged in the printing trade, the National Graphical Association (NGA). As a result of that trade dispute there was a strike by members of the NGA employed by Dimbleby Printers which stopped the Dimbleby newspapers from appearing after August 19, 1983.

In order to resume publication Dimbleby had to find an alternative printer who did not employ members of the NGA.

It found one in TBF (Printers) Ltd which was an associated company of T. Bailey Forman Ltd, the publishers of the *Nottingham Evening Post*, with whom the NUJ had been engaged in a trade dispute which started in 1979 and was still continuing. The two companies had parallel shareholding and were controlled by the same (third) company.

In the first week of October 1983, Dimbleby entered into an oral contract with TBF for the provision by Dimbleby to TBF of copy for the Dimbleby newspapers and the printing of the necessary quantities

Continued on p 32



Company cars

A SPECIAL REPORT

More than 60 per cent of all new cars sold in Britain are bought by businesses. Every car maker of note is battling to increase its share of this £7 billion-a-year market

Motor industry watchers are agreed that there will be a reaction this year to 1983's new car sales bonanza which saw a record 1.79 million cars sold in Britain. But while they expect the market to fall to around 1.7 million some observers insist that fleet and company car sales will "buck" the trend and increase.

It seems that 1983 was the year of the private buyer and it was this retail led boom which is expected to tail off somewhat this year. Ford, the long established market leader in the company car business, confidently expect the fleet sector will increase by 4 per cent.

Mr Ernie Thompson, Ford's director of sales says: "A lot of vehicle replacement has been postponed, a lot of leasing contracts have been extended and there is a degree of pent-up demand. This will fuel an increased fleet market".

A 4 per cent increase is good news at any time but when it relates to the uniquely important British fleet and company market it is especially good. Britain is the only country in the world where company bought cars account for over 60 per cent of all the cars sold.

Fleet News, the leading trade paper serving this very specialised sector, undertook a survey of readers with responsibility for 3.5 million cars and came up with some very significant information which further emphasises the importance of the sector to car manufacturers, their dealers and the increasing number of contract hire, leasing and consultancy firms.

It found that 41 per cent of companies replace their cars every two years, 40 per cent every three and 12 per cent every four. The surprise was the number favouring three years instead of the more generally established practice of two yearly intervals. Such is the pressure on firms' finances at present that they are apparently prepared to accept additional maintenance costs rather than tie up capital in depreciating assets, i.e. new cars.

As one could expect in such an important sector it is the subject of more real and imaginary "expertise for sale" than almost any other aspect of business and industrial life in this country. Statistics abound and if you buy enough they will tell you what you want to hear.

But the one statistic that crops up time after time and never ceases to impress is the value of the fleet and company market. It is variously estimated at between £7,000m and £8,000m a year and that alone explains why every car maker of note selling in this country maintains an expensive fleet sales department and why the importers are making such strenuous efforts to get their share of the cake which until quite recently was thought to be an exclusively British perk.

Mrs Jean Denton, managing director of Herondrive, one of the pace setters in the company car package deal business, says that in an era when management responsibility and autonomy are coming to the fore, it is difficult and wrong to tell a man what car he should have down to the last detail. This trend is leading to company car users being allowed a wide choice within the parameters laid down by the chief executive. She calls it "putting the perk back in the car park".



Steve Blogg

One man and his cars: John Pugh, Vauxhall fleet sales manager

The demize of the Cortina, the advent of the trendy Sierra, the introduction of Vauxhall's extremely successful Cavalier and a host of new offerings from the importers produced with an eye to the needs of the company buyer, all place the emphasis on driver choice. The spin-off for the firm is a happier employee and possibly lower maintenance costs because of the extra pride and care with his perferred new car.

With few exceptions manufacturers run demonstration fleets for the company car buyer to borrow. He is offered cars for anything from a few days to several months for an extended test of reliability. In a year which has seen the fiercest price war in living memory many demonstrators have also been used to sweeten the pot and clinch a deal.

The tougher income tax penalties introduced for company cars above 1800cc has seen firms rush through a hurried modification of an existing model. In BMW's case it now offers the BMW 318i especially tailored for the executive who previously bought the 2 litre six cylinder BMW 320i but resented having to pay the extra tax. The 1766cc BMW 318i is the answer.

Vauxhall has also been able to cash in on the same tax problem with up market versions of the Cavalier and the larger bodied Carlton with engines just scraping under the 1800cc limit.

One of the less publicised but still important attractions of the fleet market for the manufacturer is that the fleet operator is less inclined to join the rush for August new model year registration than the private buyer. The professional buyer knows only too well that PDI's (Pre-delivery inspections) tend to be skimped as workshops are swamped by the flood of August orders. They are much more concerned with the mileage their cars will do and the affect on resale prices than the pre-fix on their registration plates.

All manufacturers offer special deals to fleet buyers. Until recently it was generally assumed these were only available to what the trade calls Registered Fleet Operators (RFO's) That is those with fleets of 25 or more vehicles. Transport managers are given VIP treatment with frequent invitations to new car launches and technical presentations. They are even consulted at an early stage in the development of new models and certainly when new designs are put to the test of public acceptability in secretly held clinics.

In the past 18 months, however, as many of the smaller importers have sought to rectify their exclusion from the lucrative fleet market the 25 minimum has been scrapped. Indeed with some of the importer's dealers standing to benefit by a factory bonus of several hundred pounds for every company car sold in this way, the more cynical fleet operators are now talking of RFO's with a fleet of less than half a dozen.

The future is very much in the melting pot at present. The Day of The Cortina is over and most knowledgeable observers believe it will never return. As one major fleet operator put it; "Ford's total dominance of the fleet market rested solidly on the broad shoulders of the Cortina at a time when its competitors were not in the same street. Those days are gone. Every manufacturer of any size selling in Britain today is in there pitching for business with fast improving cars".

The transport director of a Midland engineering group with 75 cars in his fleet said: "In the future you will find that more and more fleets contain a wider selection of cars particularly for middle management. In our case we were worried about complicating maintenance work by introducing more makes to what had been essentially a single manufacturer fleet supplemented by a few expensive cars of different makes for board members.

"Today we have three makes in the main fleet and that will increase to five in a couple of months. So many modern cars are now reliable enough to be operated throughout their short fleet life without undue maintenance expenses".

Clifford Webb
Motoring Correspondent

● Fleet News Motor Show is being held at Wembley Conference Centre, London, until today

The new model waiting to be unwrapped

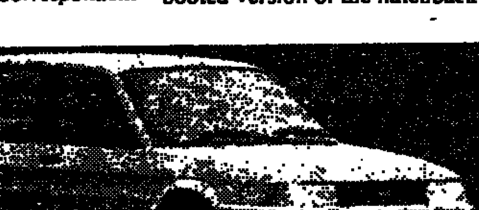
The battle between the market leader Ford and fast improving Vauxhall for the lion's share of the fleet market for medium cars – represented by their Sierra and Cavalier models – is one of the most bitter confrontations we in Britain have seen for a long time. "Those two are not taking many prisoners and that means give away prices, follow up services and five star attention", was how the fleet sales manager of a rival manufacturer put it.

It is not difficult to see why the two American groups are concentrating so much of their time and resources on this one sector. Medium cars account for some 60 per cent of all cars sold in Britain and more than half are bought by companies or professional men and women. That means 500,000 cars a year on the basis of last year's 1.79 million new car registrations.

In truth, however, the medium sector is tending to divide itself into lower and upper groupings with cars like the Escort and Astra in the lower bracket. Austin Rover's Maestro, now approaching its first birthday, has tried to keep a foot in both camps because it is a little longer than Escort and offers more interior space.

Maestro has made promising inroads into fleet business but if Austin Rover is to improve on its 18.5 per cent market share it must do a great deal better. For far too long it has not had suitable models for this very demanding sector. Maestro was a start but it does not compete head on with Sierra or Cavalier. LM11 will rectify that in April.

Ever since Maestro was launched the industry's grape vine has been full of rumours about LM 11. It was said to be a booted version of the hatchback Maestro but reports to that effect caused tempers to rise at Austin Rover's Coventry headquarters. Company sources insisted that LM 11, soon to be called Montego, only bears a family likeness to Maestro and is in fact much larger. Unofficial photographs seem to support this.



The shape of things to come: Austin-Rover's LM11, to be called the Montego

Brian Mahony, Austin Rover's UK sales director, says: "LM 11 is probably the most vital ingredient in the company's recovery plans. It is pitched directly at Cavalier and Sierra. More and more we are taking the views of fleet operators into our new product designs. Those who have seen preproduction models have been impressed".

The importance of LM 11 is underlined by the changes that have been made in the company's fleet sales department to prepare for its arrival. In the past year another 50 fleet sales staff have been recruited and reorganised into three divisions under Jeffery Johnson, the fleet sales director.

For the first time private and public sector fleet sales have their own sales team. Both are backed by an entirely new departure for a BL company – a "Think Tank" to look after long term fleet strategy and sales developments. It will be seen by down to earth fleet operators, who over the years have been very critical of BL's lack of attention to fleet needs, as clear evidence of its determination to break with the bad old days.

Vauxhall is the new blue eyed boy in the fleet business. In September 1981 when the front wheel drive Cavalier was launched the General Motors company held a little over 8 per cent of the fleet market. At the end of last year it was claiming 16.5 per cent and within the crucial medium sector was holding a remarkable 25 to 30 per cent.

John Pugh, Vauxhall's fleet sales manager, is quite insistent that there has never been anything approaching Cavalier's impact on fleet buyers. "They are a notoriously conservative bunch where new cars are concerned prefering to sit back and let someone else iron out the bugs. That did not happen with Cavalier. Right from the start they took to it

continued on page 23

From Austin to Volvo: Peter Waymark looks at the cars that count in the drive for sales

The never-ending battle for rich fleet pickings

This time last year BL had just launched the Austin *Maestro* and motor industry watchers wondered whether the Ford Escort's seemingly perennial domination of the light-medium sector might at last be threatened.

The Maestro was BL's first convincing entrant in this part of the market for decades, a car to banish the unhappy memory of the Allegro and make a strong appeal to fleet buyers. All the right elements were there - excellent fuel economy, low servicing costs and a design based on tried and tested components. The engines were comprehensively revised versions of units that had seen service in several other BL models, while the gearboxes were bought in from Volkswagen. Robot assembly augured well for the quality of the car and like the Metro, the Maestro promised to be - indeed had to be - right first time.

The Escort, though, was a formidable competitor. Its biggest advantage was getting into the field first and once initial doubts about front-wheel drive and the hatchback bodyshell - both traditionally anathema to fleet managers - had been overcome, the car simply took over where the old Escort had left off.

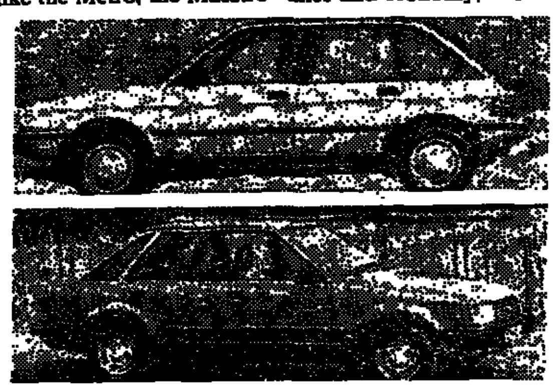
So far the Escort has come through the challenge of the Maestro unscathed. In last year's record British car market, the Escort was not only the top model but outsold the Maestro by nearly three to one. In the Maestro's defence, it must be said that the car did not go on sale until nearly two months into the year; that if five-door versions only are counted, it matched the Escort almost car for car; and it did have the satisfaction of displacing the Vauxhall Astra as number two in the sector.

The last was no mean achievement, for the Astra, true to its German origins, was an excellent vehicle, sturdily built and with superb handling, and like the Escort it was already well established in the market. A new version of the Astra is due in the autumn.

These three are battling it out in the small/medium sector with the others a long way behind. Unhappily for Talbot, the Horizon is one of the also rans, once voted Car of the Year, and strong on performance and economy, it has failed to sell in Britain in any numbers and Talbot must already be looking to the replacement due next year.

The superminis, too, are significant fleet vehicles, for driving schools, car hire firms, television rental companies and the like. BL's Metro is established as the class leader, though the Fiesta will hope to do better after a face-lift in the autumn which produced a 20 per cent saving of fuel.

Vauxhall's Spanish-built Nova, which has the advantage of being offered in both saloon and hatchback forms, is also starting to build a useful fleet business.



Top: the Austin Maestro and Ford's Escort

SMALL/MEDIUM CLASS

	Ford Escort 1.3L 5 door	Austin Maestro 1.3L 5 door	Vauxhall Astra 1.3L 5 door	Talbot Horizon 1.3LS 5 door
price	£5,421	£5,199	£5,286	£4,895
engine size (cc)	1,295	1,275	1,297	1,294
consumption (mpg):				
urban	30.4	37.0	32.5	36.2
56 mph	47.1	52.5	51.4	48.7
75 mph	36.7	37.8	38.2	37.2
front wing	£42.43	£30.00	£36.15	£41.50
clutch unit	£48.42	£52.50	£42.65	£49.73
major service	1hr 42mins	2hrs 6mins	1hr 12mins	1hr 55mins
insurance group	3	3	3	3

MEDIUM CLASS

	Ford Sierra 1.6L 5 door/ 4 speed	Vauxhall Cavalier1.6L 4 door/ 4 speed	Austin Montego 4 door	Talbot Solara1.6GL 4 door/ 5 speed	Renault 18GTL 4 door/ 5 speed
price	£6,221	£5,882	?	£6,145	£5,950
engine size (cc)	1,593	1,598	?	1,592	1,647
consumption (mpg):					
urban	28.0	29.4	?	28.8	32.5
56 mph	44.8	46.3	?	50.4	57.7
75 mph	34.9	35.2	?	37.2	42.2
front wing	£44.66	£47.50	?	£46.25	£41.28
clutch unit	£47.03	£46.80	?	£78.80	£54.59
major service	2hrs 24mins	1hr 12mins	?	1hr 55mins	2hrs 30mins
insurance group	3	3	?	3	4

The Cavalier treatment

The medium car sector, which contains the richest fleet pickings, is witnessing a fierce battle for sales between the Vauxhall Cavalier and Ford's Cortina replacement, the Sierra. If the Sierra has generally been ahead, Ford does not rule this part of the market to the extent it did throughout the 1970s.

The Cavalier came in with two advantages. First, it was an excellent car, building on the reputation of the previous Cavalier for quality and reliability (not always Vauxhall's greatest assets in the past) and offering a good blend of performance, handling and fuel economy.

Secondly, it arrived on the market just a year before Ford replaced the Cortina and in the uncertainty about how the Sierra would turn out, fleet managers decided to give Vauxhall a try. Many of them liked the Cavalier and stayed with it.

The Sierra proved a controversial design. The car tried to do two things at once: revive Ford's flagging mid-range sales on the Continent and prove an *acceptable* successor to the Cortina. It offered a striking hatchback bodyshell and independent rear suspension to European motorists but had the reassurance of rear-wheel drive and proven engines for the more conservative British fleet customer.

During 1983, nudged along by heavy discounting, the Sierra outsold the Cavalier by 159,000 to 127,500; last month the Cavalier edged ahead and in doing so helped General Motors for the first time to take a bigger market share than BL. For BL, though, the riposte is not far away: in April it launches a Sierra/Cavalier challenger in the Austin Montego (LM 11).

BL's biggest weakness in the last few years has been the lack of a strong contender in the medium sector for neither the Ital, a revamped version of the Morris Marina, nor the Ambassador (formerly the Princess) has really filled the bill. The Montego will replace both and more than the Metro or Maestro it could be BL's make or break model.

It is expected to have a similar mechanical specification to that of the Maestro, but there may be a wider choice of engines with a two litre as well as a 1300 and 1600. It will be a longer car, with four doors and a conventional boot instead of a tailgate, and there is also likely to be an estate version.

Reflecting the fortunes of the company as a whole, the Talbot Solara *has sold disappointingly* and rather beneath its deserts. It is attractively styled, rides well and is sparing on fuel. Foreign makes have been *making a determined effort* to break into this sector with one or two, such as the Renault 18, having modest success.



The Metro and Fiesta

SUPERMINI CLASS

	Ford Fiesta 950L 3 door	Austin Metro 1.0L 3 door
price	£4,491	£4,269
engine size (cc)	957	998
consumption (mpg):		
urban	40.4	41.7
56 mph	54.3	56.3
75 mph	39.8	39.5
front wing	£44.12	£29.00
clutch unit	£37.77	£80.00
major service	2hrs 12mins	2hrs 45mins
insurance group	1	1

New names on the way to tempt executives

In the executive car sector, roughly defined as vehicles of between two and three litres capacity, we are talking less about fleets and more about purchases for and by directors, managers and professional people. Individual choice is a bigger factor than it is lower down the market and the "buy British" requirement is often waived.

As a result, *almost* any executive model is a potential company car and the competition is therefore greater than anywhere else. While in the *medium sector the Sierra and* Cavalier have effectively carved up the market between them, there are up to a dozen strong contenders for executive sales.

The three leaders are the Ford Granada, the Rover and the big Volvos. All three, as it happens, are at the veteran stage, and it is no secret that a *Granada replacement*, codenamed Scorpio, is coming out later in the year. And in 1985 BL will be launching its new executive car, the product of the XX *project with Honda*

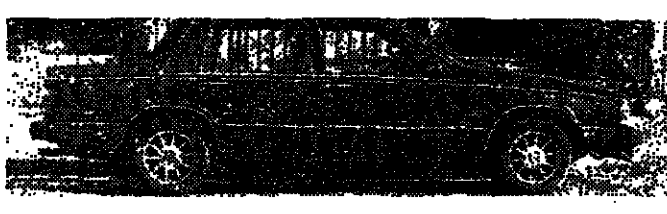
The Granada, meanwhile, is a car that has benefited from a series of improvements over the years, notably in the areas of *suspension and refinement*; the top of the range Ghia models can boast almost luxury standards of trim and equipment; and, as on all Fords.

The Rover has had a chequered history, voted Car of the Year when it first appeared but badly let down by mechanical and quality problems. Nor did Rover traditionalists take to its striking shape and hatchback body. But the range has been *steadily broadened* and improved and now runs from an economical two litre to a turbo diesel and the high performance Vitesse.

Volvo has maintained a strong challenge in the British executive market despite models that are hardly pretty to look at and, in the case of the 240 series, go back to the late 1960s. But they are valued by British motorists for their durability. The bizarrely styled 760, available with either petrol or turbodiesel engines, is a relative newcomer at the top of the range.

General Motors is doing well in this sector with the Carlton, while its Opel Senator is a car of almost Mercedes quality. Mercedes *itself* now has two entrants, the "compact" 200 range, and the recently introduced and smaller 190. Another distinguished contender from Germany is the Audi *100*, with its low-drag shape and unusual five cylinder engine.

Saab, like Volvo, carries on with a basically old design that *scores on durability*, while there is much new technology in the BMW 3 and 5 series. French models in this part of the market include the ageing but *still stylish* Citroen CX, the refined 505 and 604 from Peugeot and the brand-new Renault 25, which replaces the 20 and 30 models.



The Volvo: a strong challenge in the executive market

EXECUTIVE CLASS

	Ford Granada 2.8i	Rover 2600SE	Opel Senator 3.0E	Volvo 760GLE	Audi 100CD
price	£11,734	£11,449	£12,896	£13,249	£10,825
engine size (cc)	2,792	2,597	2,968	2,849	2,144
consumption (mpg):					
urban	19.0	19.0	18.6	17.9	22.6
56 mph	37.7	40.9	31.1	32.1	44.1
75 mph	28.0	31.1	24.5	25.0	36.7
front wing	£78.46	£82.50	£51.50	£67.43	£77.62
clutch unit	£94.20	£85.50	£85.05	*	£117.36
major service	2hrs 48mins	2hrs 30mins	1hr 12mins	3hrs 6mins	1hr 36mins
insurance group	7	6	7	7	7

* automatic transmission

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A remarkable turn around for Jaguar

Paying the price of sheer luxury

The fortunes of Britain's two main luxury car manufacturers could hardly be more different than they were barely five years ago. At that time Rolls-Royce, having come through the energy crisis almost unscathed, was enjoying record sales; while Jaguar was losing money heavily and its very existence was in doubt.

Today Rolls-Royce is still trying to recover from the disastrous year of 1982 when sales fell by one quarter and the company called for large redundancies at the Crewe factory. It can no longer count, as it could throughout the 1970s, on being immune from the harsh realities of the economy in general and the car market in particular.

By any logical standard, the Rolls-Royce is a thoroughly anachronistic car, absurdly large for crowded city streets and one of the worst models in the world for fuel consumption. For a long time these things hardly mattered: the car had a unique reputation for quality and there was nothing else quite like it.

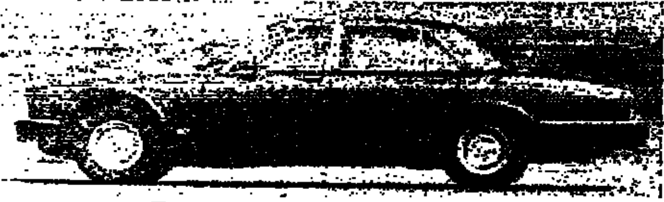
The current saloon, the Silver Spirit, made absolutely no concessions to the economic climate, being actually bigger, and only slightly less thirsty, than the Silver Shadow it replaced. In retrospect this may have been a mistake and there is evidence that some company chairmen feel that at a time of high unemployment it is no longer socially acceptable to ride in such ostentatious transport.

They may also be deciding that there is an adequate alternative in the S class Mercedes, a car that matches the Rolls on engineering and finish and sells at half the price. Mercedes launched the current model as an exercise in "making the big car respectable", especially in fuel economy; since then there have been further dramatic improvements in that area. Superbly built and discreetly styled, the S class does not parade its luxury; but luxurious it certainly is.

LUXURY CLASS

	Rolls-Royce Silver Spirit	Mercedes-Benz 500SEL	Daimler Double Six	BMW 735i SE
price	£55,240	£27,770	£24,991	£24,670
engine size (cc)	6,750	4,973	5,343	3,430
consumption (mpg):				
urban	12.0	18.6	15.0	17.7
56 mph	18.1	31.0	26.8	35.8
75 mph	16.1	24.8	21.5	28.8
front wing	£473.79	£88.45	£169.00	£119.16
clutch unit	*	*	*	*
major service	12hrs 50mins	5hrs 25mins	5hrs 50mins	3hrs 25mins
insurance group	9	9	9	9

*automatic transmission


The Jaguar, a new generation of cars

The remarkable turn around in Jaguar's sales has been largely due to a determined attack on those areas like productivity, quality and reliability that had so let it down in the past. In 1981 the company made only 14,000 cars with 10,000 workers; this year's likely total is 32,000 cars with 8,200 workers.

Even through the bad times there was never any question that the cars, as cars, especially in their 12 cylinder versions, offered a combination of performance and refinement that was unequalled anywhere in the world. Now Jaguar is on the threshold of a new generation of cars, the XJ40 range, that must both maintain the tradition and also move with the times. The new lightweight 3.6 litre engine, introduced in the XJ-S, seems a good omen.

Without being quite as robust as the Mercedes or as refined as the Jaguar, the big BMW models, the 7 series saloons and the 6 series coupés, have sold consistently well in Britain and offer comfort, lively performance and excellent handling. They also boast several advanced technical features, such as the impressive anti-lock braking system (ABS) which is standard on the top models.

Peter Waymark

Will we learn to love derv?

In recent years, the diesel-engined car has lost its image of gimmickry and won a respectable place in British market, thanks largely to rapid strides in technology and better availability.

Today's diesel cars are clean, quiet, smooth and easy to start and provide a pleasant surprise for those who still harbour the out-of-date suspicion that driving one on equivalent to sitting in the cab of a noisy and smelly lorry.

Diesel cars are now on offer in Britain in various shapes and sizes. *Motor* magazine lists 42 of which almost half are produced by Ford and Peugeot, each of them now offering nine diesel models.

Fourteen manufacturers now market diesel engined versions of popular models on the British market, but despite significant sales increases the diesel remains a relative rarity.

In the company car sector, it is clearly not a major winner and is unlikely ever to achieve the penertration won by diesels in the rest of land-locked Europe, where taxi demand, for example, is much higher.

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders predicted, rightly, that demand for diesels would rise in line with availability. The increase in the number of models equipped with a diesel engine had proved the point.

In 1980, diesel cars accounted for 0.4 per cent of total new car sales. Last year the proportion was 1.37 per cent. Between 1982 and 1983 diesel-car sales almost doubled to 24,600 and, it would appear, won for themselves a growing and permanent share.

But the volume of diesel car sales remains low in relation to other European markets. In 1982, Britain's figure of 14,530 diesel car sales compared with [illegible]178 in West Germany, 221.309 in France, 293.000 in Italy and 37,203 in the Netherlands.

One reason for Britain's comparitive lack of interest in diesels is geographical. In an island nation the sales rep's car is unlikely to cover the huge distances – well over 20,000 miles a year – that are necessary before the diesel becomes an economic alternative to the cheaper petrol engine.

Secondly, the differential in the price of derv and petrol has only been established in Britain in recent years and has been notoriously small compared with the rest of Europe. Today, derv is about 1.64p per gallon against 180p for four-star petrol.

Once off the main highways in Britain, drivers will have difficulty locating a garage selling derv: self-service stations often site the derv pump away from the main service area so that lorries can manoeuvre more easily, and are likely to be open to the elements. Derv is also a smelly, dirty fuel: splashed shoes probably are ruined.

Tax on derv is now 47 per cent of the retail price in the UK, compared with 53 per cent for petrol. In Italy, the tax differential is a huge 41 per cent in favour of derv, which attracts only 17 per cent tax on the selling price. In France, the gap is 10 per cent but in West Germany, the differential is the smallest, just three per cent.

Last year, Ford completed a £100m investment to re-equip its engine plant at Dagenham in east London to manufacture its first diesel engine for cars. The plan is to supply engines to the entire Ford of Europe empire. Potential capacity is 400,000 units a year.

The Dagenham operation compliments the company's petrol engine factory at Bridgend in Wales and means that most of Ford's power units for its European cars are British-made.

About £40m has been spent developing Ford's new 1.6 litre diesel which this spring will be fitted to the Fiesta, Orion and Escort, the latter two being contenders at the bottom end of the fleet market.

The engine is a direct competitor to the 1.6 litre Vauxhall unit which is proving so successful in the Cavalier and Astra.

The Fiesta diesel, which the company claims will be the most economical car in Europe, will return 74.3 mpg at 56 mph, while the figure for the successful Japanese diesel mini, the Daihatsu Charade, is 78.47 mpg.

As a result of the increased activity in diesel cars there are some forecasters who now believe that by the end of this decade, 10 per cent of all cars produced will be diesel. However, with strenuous efforts being made to improve even further the efficiency of the petrol engine such predictions must be viewed with more than a little circumspection.

Edward Townsend

The new model to come

Continued from page 21

and they have been buying it in increasing numbers ever since.

But even that remarkable start is nothing compared with the spin-offs. Cavalier drew the attention of fleet buyers to the rest of Vauxhall's rejuvenated range of models and Astra in particular.

"At the lower end we are giving full support to Nova which is now coming into freer supply and in the bigger car market the Carlton is a success story and a half with sales up from 4,000 in 1982 to 20,000 last year. It is a very fully equipped de luxe saloon which comes in below the 1800cc income tax ceiling and that makes it a very attractive package".

Ford is acutely aware of the increased competition already in the field and the extra pressure that will be created by LM II. "As the market leader for a long time we appreciate more than anyone else that our competitors can only make progress at our expense and there is no way we are going to take that lying down. We shall increase our efforts even further", was how a company spokesman summed it up.

Commenting on latest trends in the fleet and business car sector, Tony Semper, Ford's fleet development manager, said: "The true cost of running a fleet of company cars is more apparent than ever now because inflation has been reduced so significantly. As a consequence the growth of specialist fleet management companies has slowed up. They are still widely used however for their leasing expertise by the middle sized companies who do not have the resources to support their own in-house fleet administration department."

On the choice of cars he said the medium or C/D sector was shrinking and been doing so for the past three years. Downsizing to smaller, less expensive cars was a contributory factor as companies were forced to reduce transport costs. Another important influence was the personal income tax penalty applying to bigger cars.

C.W.

Once it was patriotic to Buy British, now . . .

Foreign comes into the open

The dividing line between a British car and an imported make was once very obvious. Today it is so blurred that companies who only a few years ago felt it their patriotic duty to Buy British can now salve their conscience by opting for Fords, Vauxhalls or Talbots which may or may not have been built in British factories.

In fact they could just as easily have come from Germany, Spain and Belgium. Even those assembled in Britain contain a large number of foreign parts such as the Australian engines fitted to all Vauxhall Cavaliers.

This blurring of the dividing line has persuaded an increasing number of companies that they will no longer invite public censorship if they go the whole hog and buy a car that is instantly recognisable as a foreigner. A barometer of the increasing acceptability of imported cars is the fact they can now be seen in the car parks of Midland based component manufacturers who once banished them to surrounding streets.

However distastful it may seem to the more nationalistically minded the fact remains that some cars have a more emotional appeal to drivers than others and these include a number of Continental marques. The appeal of Mercedes and BMW to senior executives is long established in this market. What is comparatively new, however, is the way the two German makes have extended their range down market to attract the younger budget conscious middle manager.

The new "small" Mercedes 190 costs around £10,000 and is no cheaper than the bigger bodied Mercedes 200. But again it is a question of perceived image. The smaller 190 is a bold attempt by Mercedes to break into a sector of the market where the taxi image of the bigger 200 makes it unacceptable.

BMW goes even further down market with cars in the £7,000 to £8,000 bracket which offers a very attractive alternative to mass produced Fords and Vauxhalls. This was recently spotlighted when Bygging, the UK subsidiary of the Swiss company Waxoyl, ordered £250,000 worth of 3-series BMW's to replace a mixed Ford and Vauxhall fleet. Even the company's sales reps will now use a BMW.

But is is not only the established names in the Continental executive car business who have set their stall out in the British company car market. Even such unlikely names as Alfa Romeo, the state owned Italian group more usually associated with fast sports saloons, is now making a determined effort to attact company business.

A few months ago it flew a plane load of fleet buyers to Naples to try to persuade them that its much troubled Pomigliano plant has turned over a new leaf and is now producing the new Alfa 33 which is reliable enough to join company fleets. Alfa has always had an extremely marketable name but in recent years it has been marred by more than its share of rust and reliability problmes. However the latest offerings from the plant in the shadow of Vesuvius have shown considerable improvement.

Another famous Italian name in a similar position is Lancia. It too was hit by rust and reliability problems and its image has not been helped by becoming part of the huge Fiat empire. However last April Lancia sales in Britain were separated from Fiat Auto (UK) and taken over by Lancar, a newly created subsidiary of Gerald Ronson's Heron Corporation.

Under managing director John Turner Lancar made the courageous decision to face up to Lancia's damaged reputation and not try to sweep it under the carpet.

This approach almost certainly accounts for the slow start. Lancar sales director Mike Carida says they will probably sell about 1,500 cars less than Fiat in their first full year but is planning a substantial improvement this year which would nearly double sales to around 6,000.

The Japanese have made little progress in the fleet and company car sector but the fact remains that they have not really tried. At least not quite recently when for the first time since it was introduced the so called voluntary ceiling of around 11 per cent of the market was only reached with the aid of some pretty fierce discounting. Faced with the need for a hard sell approach the Japanese are changing their tactics and adopting more aggressive sales techniques to win business with fleet operators.

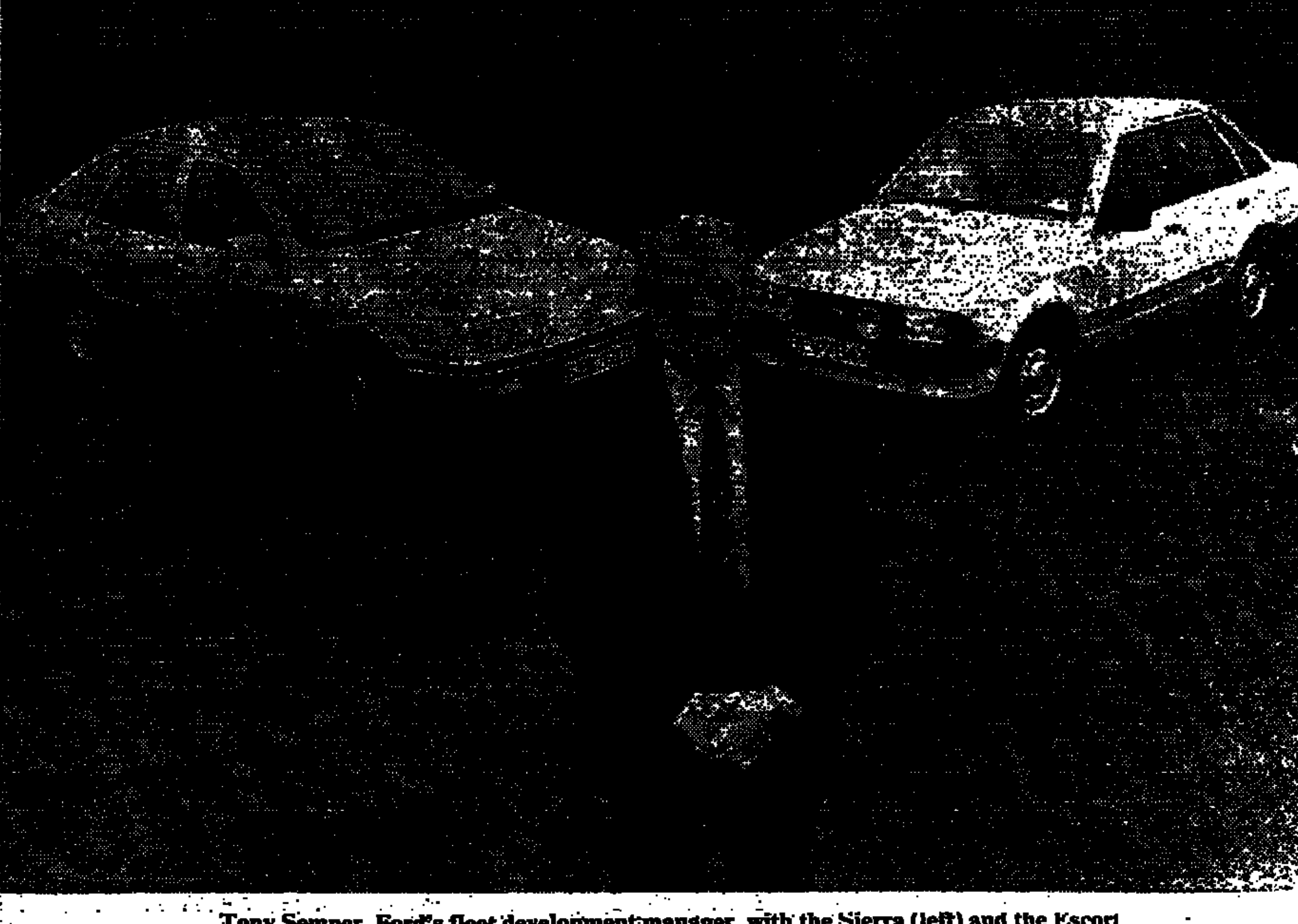
Alan Marsh, sales and marketing director of Toyota GB, believes the way-in is on the back of a financial package offering very favourable contract hire and leasing programmes – a method finding increasing favour with all the car firms and dealt with in more detail in another article.

In the main the importers are looking to the small fleet operators for new business because among other things it is easier to dispose of a relatively small number of used fleet cars through your own dealer network than several hundred in a single batch. The trade has traditionally preferred to dispose of 50 Fords or Vauxhalls than say Renaults or Peugeots although neither of the American makes may have been produced in British factories.

There is also the question of spare parts prices. The importers have made big efforts in recent years to reduce the gap between the cost of their replacement parts and those of the British based car firms but are still reckoned to be more expensive on the average. However these extra maintenance costs are being offset in some cases by extremely competitive deals on the cars themselves.

Some importers who want to protect their executive car image choose to make a distinction between fleet and company car business. Mercedes Benz and Volvo are good examples. Both are very conscious of the need to protect their resale values and fear that Mercedes and Volvo used car prices would take a plunge if the trade had to cope with the large numbers released periodically by fleet replacement programmes. They do however make exceptions for rental companies such as Avis who give their models exposure to potential customers.

Clifford Webb



Tony Semper, Ford's fleet development manager, with the Sierra (left) and the Escort

The big financial question:

Is it really best to buy?

In the early 1970s almost all fleet and company car deals involved outright purchase. Since then however changes in income tax and the need to conserve capital have seen a tremendous growth in leasing, contract hire and fleet management.

Despite this change which has spawned a whole new service industry, the majority of company cars are still bought outright. Some suppliers, especially retail dealers, discourage leasing contracts and many fleet operators prefer the freedom to take advantage of the flood of cut price offers coming their way at the moment.

Another deciding factor is the level of interest rates. It has been a long time since capital borrowing was cheap but it is nice to think that if the good times return you are free to take advantage and not tied into long term contracts.

There are also a number of prejudices against leasing contracts by transport managers who feel that their role in the company structure is being threatened by an outside organisation professing to do the work better than them. But the fact remains that in the very sophisticated and competitive American market about 70 per cent of fleet business is conducted in the form of leasing contracts.

It seems that long ago our American cousins realised that the motor trade is a risk business and decided that additional long term costs were worth accepting to underwrite this risk.

The chief executive of one of the largest contract hire company's told me: "More and more companies are seeing their motoring as fixed costs and using their variables to generate revenue and profit".

The whole cost of leasing up to £8,000 a car, is tax allowable. This contrasts with restricted allowances for outright purchase; 25 per cent of the purchase price in the first year and 25 per cent of the written down value in subsequent years. The maximum allowance in this way is only £2,000 and that makes the purchase of the chairman's Mercedes or Jag an expensive proposition.

The simplest form of lease sees the leasing company buying the car and being paid a monthly rental. But the more popular method is the so called "balloon lease" which involves lower rental payments plus a final or "balloon" payment to make good any difference between the actual second hand value of the car and the original estimate.

This involves the lessee in some risk which is entirely avoided by contract hire but as you would expect is more expensive. The rent is calculated on the basis of estimate mileage over the hire period and there is usually a "get out clause", which permits the hire company to make an additional charge at the end if the vehicle is returned with more miles on the clock or in a very poor condition.

But this method lends itself to a complete package deal which can cover insurance, road tax and even the provision of replacements. In this way it permits firms to budget more tightly and even cut down on transport staffing.

The fleet management contract is the ultimate way of handing over administration to a specialist while retaining tight budgetry control. Dial Contracts lays claim to being the market leader in company car leasing, contract hire and fleet management with a current operating fleet valued at £75m serving 500 industrial and commercial customers.

Interleasing, Birmingham, the Hanger Motors company, is probably the biggest in the contract hire business with 12,000 vehicles. Another offshoot of a Birmingham based motor group is Autolease, the BSG company.

Herondrive London, part of Gerald Ronson's empire and run by Jean Denton, one of the brightest executives in a very tough and hitherto "Male Only" business, says: "Companies must either be prepared to employ experienced car managers and support them or they must rely on outside services. It is this simple choice, combined with the ever growing population of company cars that has encouraged the emergence of a range of specialist services that could save British industry a significant proportion of the huge sums it spends on cars today".

Jock Carrie, chairman of Godfrey Davis (Contract Hire), forecasts that contract hire business will grow by 15 percent this year and that his own group will comfortable exceed that. He admits his company is "not the cheapest in the market" but insists that this is more than compensated for by first rate service and back-up.

PHH Fleet Management Services of Swindon lays claim to being the fastest growing fleet management company in the UK. In addition to the normal services it also offers two additional ones. The PHH Fleetcard and All Star Fuel Card. The former is a nationally operated charge card for repairs, servicing and maintenance work while the latter gives a similar service for fuel needs.

Last summer Austin Rover decided to go into the contract hire business with its own company British Car Contracts. The plan was to exploit the smaller fleets with up to 25 cars. But when the bigger fleets started taking an interest it became apparent that the state owned car firm was offering very competitive terms. More than 600 contracts had been signed before the end of the year and as BBC's scheme is still only a pilot operation through 60 of Austin Rover's 1,400 dealers, that is a very impressive start indeed.

C.W.

In-car phones, at a price

"One day everyone will have a number, perhaps more important than their name, with which it will be possible to contact them anywhere in the world," according to Dave Halliday of Motorola. Such an Orwellian possibility will actually start becoming reality in 1985.

Cellular Radio is the technology which will make portable telephones, and hence their owners numbers, more accessible. But starting next March, first London then Birmingham and Manchester and finally the motorways connecting them will be the frontiers of this new world.

Mr Halliday, manager of Cellular Radio operations for Motorola, explained how that symbol of executive luxury, the car telephone, "will remain at about the same price as today for the first few years." In other words, about the same £2,500 for a mobile handset alone with another £500 each year to work on the present British Telecom System 4 radiophone network.

The leading car phone suppliers hope that the two Cellular Radio services will attract so many new customers that they can make standard units in volume, allowing prices to tumble and their functionality to grow in much the same way as the personal microcomputer market.

Only recent advances in fast, computerized exchanges together with radio phones that can be rapidly re-tuned by a computer have allowed the old idea of "cellular" radio, and hence car phones, to become both practical and, perhaps one day affordable.

Both of the British networks will be based on the same Advanced Mobile Phone System (sold as AMPS) invented by AT&T's Bell Laboratories. For the first time direct dial-up both to and from a mobile radio phone over the Public Switched Telephone Network (or PSTN) will be possible.

Typically, when the user keys in a number from the mobile radio phone he or she is assigned a voice channel by the nearest "cell" base station. The link might then be routed on through the PSTN or back out across the Cellular Radio network to another mobile radio phone.

The leading suppliers believe that car phones will be most popular, since it is expected to be a business communications system to what one supplier described as "that mobile office". Models are already on the market which combine voice with digitized text and data which can be displayed on an in-car screen – at several thousand pounds the price might still be considered prohibitive to equip the travelling salesman.

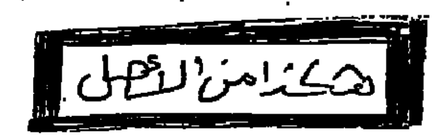
Perhaps the ultimate in-car communications system was demonstrated as part of World Communications Year, during 1983. Dubbed the "Communicar", a Rover Maestro Vanden Plas was kitted out with a BT Emerald Radio phone for direct dial-up, a CB Radio and microcomputer player on the dashboard.

An argument is now brewing over the kind of standards that will be enforced on the wide range of existing equipment on sale in the car phone market and just how much is actually known about the useful operation of this latest technology.

And to confuse matters, the radio phone standard for Britain, called the Total Access Communication System (or TACS), is subtly different from the both of the AMPS-type systems which will be installed by the BT-Securicor joint venture and Racal Millicom. The TACS standard is a compromise that attempts to include *all* desirable facilities.

At issue are the so-called "air interface" standards needed for the inter-working of different radio phones within either of the TACS Cellular Radio networks – these are being set by the consortia themselves, overseen by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Paul Walton



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THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Financial services in the Budget firing line

The City has finally woken up to an awful truth: a "neutral" Budget need not be boring. Quite the reverse: as we have argued in this column for some weeks, the Chancellor is likely to establish his radical credentials by matching a "savers" package of tax cuts with tax increases designed to level down the tax treatment of financial institutions. This exercise can – and should be – largely self-financing. A quite separate theme of the Budget promises to be a further switch of the taxing emphasis from income to expenditure.

To start with Mr Nigel Lawson's expressed intentions: these are to introduce a Budget which neither increases nor lowers the net burden of taxation. This is what he means by "neutrality". Since the revenue numbers are looking rather better than they did in the autumn, such a Budget implies a lower public sector borrowing requirement, a tighter medium term financial strategy and, with luck, a cut in interest rates on March 13. Within this framework, there will be quite dramatic swings in taxation.

Mr Lawson has his priorities. The Chancellor – and the Prime Minister, with whom he has been spending most of his pre-Budget days – is keen to raise the real level of income tax allowances. To raise these significantly above the rate of inflation would cost him about £1,000m. This can be financed by increases in spending taxes. There is a maximum of £1.8 billion to be raised from advancing VAT on imports – or £900m if the Chancellor chooses to exempt raw materials. He can raise up to £500m by increasing duties on beer and cider, following EEC requests, to bring them into line with taxes on wine.

The real interest of this Budget would then lie in the Chancellor's treatment of savers and financial institutions. In order to placate his own backbenchers there must be not only a cut in the investment income surcharge, or its abolition (which is still pretty cheap), but also a substantial cut in capital taxation. The right wing of the Conservative party is increasingly disgruntled about the Government's inability to reduce public expenditure, and the natural way for Mrs Thatcher to sweeten her disappointed followers is to make real cuts on Capital Gains Tax and Capital Transfer Tax. There is a strong expectation that stamp duty will be cut. On shares, it is a disincentive to personal savings through the equity market; on houses, it is an impediment to mobility.

Supposing that Mr Lawson needed to find up to £1 billion to finance such a "savers package", where is he training his tax telescope? One must exclude, at this point, all pre-Budget "benefits" (for example his extra £100m from the building societies) since these would be used to lower the overall PSBR. We have however had warning of one post-Budget change, in the tax treatment of bank interest which could yield in time, £100m or more. Much more, however, is needed. The banks are still in the firing line. In his previous incarnation as a treasury minister, Mr. Lawson was the strongest proponent of Sir Geoffrey Howe's levy on bank profits. He doesn't seem to have softened his general attitude though he may be against another one-off impost.

It is the other financial institutions, notably the insurance companies, that should be most alert. The Treasury is clearly planning an extension of the tax system that will include not only banks but all other institutions selling financial services. The insurance companies are obviously the most vulnerable. Abolition of tax relief on life assurance premiums alone would yield the Chancellor up to £700m.

The Chancellor is unlikel y to change corporate taxes in a way which would increase industry's tax burden. Although the Confederation of British Industry is unlikely to be granted its expensive wish of a final abolition of the national insurance surcharge, the Chancellor would not want to raise industrial taxation at a time of fragile economic recovery. There are now unjustifiable distortions in the tax treatment of capital allowance and stock relief. If the Chancellor reduced these, he would want to offer a cut in corporation tax as a quid-pro-quo.

Mr Lawson is not a man for one hundred and one small business schemes (though he will have to sort out a few of those left behind by Sir Geoffrey Howe). He is out to make a mark by ironing out the distortions in the tax system, and by evening out the choices for personal savers. However smooth that sounds in theory, it is going to create a hornet's nest in practice. We may not like the tax system as it now exists but it has evolved over many years.

However radical it may seem, a deep cut here, a vigorous thrust there, could cause apalling administrative havoc for the financial services industry and distress and unfairness for many of their customers. As the balance of the economy tilts from manufacturing to services, so should taxation. A Green Paper, more considered action and decent notice would be a small price to pay for getting it right.

A right Royal road

Royal Insurance Britain's leading composite insurers, yesterday gave a much-needed fillip to a sector reeling from a dismal statement on its US businesses by Commercial Union this week. The immediate reason for celebration was the news that Royal's net worth had increased by 76 per cent £1.422 billion over the past two years, as a result of increased investment returns and increasing stockmarket prices. Royal's shares were marked up by 20p to 523p. A one-for-four scrip issue to reflect the increase in reserves is icing on the cake.

Stockmarket sentiment was also helped by Royal's promise to lead the way by including a valuation of its fast-growing life business in the next set of accounts to be printed next month. Mr John Howard, Royal's chief general manager, indicated that the valuation would take into account the fact that 1983 was a freak year for life funds because of the windfall increase in business stemming from the introduction of the MIRAS mortgage interest relief at source, method of making mortgage payments.

He also suggested that there would be time to take into account the detrimental effect of any Budget proposal to scrap tax relief on life premiums.

Royal's commendable initiatives to reward shareholders and put a value on its life business reflects unease among the composites about their vulnerability to a takeover.

BP to create 7,000 jobs with £1.3bn N Sea investment

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

BP, which will announce record profits in two weeks' time, is to go ahead with a massive investment in the southern North Sea worth £1.3 billion, creating 7,000 new jobs in Britain's offshore oil industry.

The four new fields to be developed will produce natural gas for the British Gas Corporation and a new terminal to handle the supplies will be built on the north banks of the Humber. Contracts for sale of the gas are still being negotiated.

BP's board of directors, which is headed by Sir Peter Walters, yesterday approved the investment and talks will start soon with the Department of Energy for development approval to be granted for the fields.

BP has known about the large gas fields in blocks it holds licences on for some years, but new drilling and appraisal work by its engineers over the past 18 months has led to the scale of the gas finds being reassessed.

The gas found by BP is estimated to be over 2.5 trillion (million-million) cubic feet, the equivalent to 450 million barrels of oil in energy terms, and will first come ashore in 1987. Supplies to the national gas network could be flowing fully by the early 1990s.

Because of the shallow water that the four fields are in, investment in offshore platforms will be less than for the oil fields in the northern sector of the North Sea.

Neverthe less BP estimates that as many as seven platforms will be needed to operate in depths of between 100 and 150 feet. These will in total involve an investment about equal to BP's massive Magnus platform, which was built in deep and hostile conditions and cost about £1.3 billion.

Tenders for the work will be invited from all off-shore industry suppliers, but BP will inevitably follow its policy of placing as much as it can in Britain. The offshore industry is likely to benefit from orders worth over 80 per cent of the total cost.


Sir Peter Walters: to announce record profits

The four fields will be named Cleeton, Ravenspurn, Hyde and Hoten after four Yorkshire villages which disappeared through coastal erosion between the 14th and 16th centuries.

The BP arrangement to sell the gas to the British Gas Corporation is still to be completed and the price to be paid per therm's a closely guarded commercial secret. However, it will increase pressure on the Norwegian offshore industry who are trying to sell British Gas output from their massive Sleipner field at a price around 30p a therm.

The price to be paid will also affect negotiations now going on between British Gas and the Dutch Government over supplies from their natural gas reserves.

The Department of Energy has told British Gas to negotiate its contracts with all suppliers, but BP, with such large reserves ready to come on stream years before any Norwegian or Dutch gas is available, have forced the prospect of British Gas buying from abroad into the late 1990s.

The Bank's new role

The Bank of England "will not allow foreign firms to throw their balance sheets at the London market", according to its key executive director. In a rare on-the-record interview, Mr David Walker – the man responsible for overseeing change in the British securities market – talks about the Bank's attitude to the market and the role it will play in nursemaiding the development of the new City.

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 1046.1 up 5.8
(day's high: 1047.1 low: 1042.1)
FT Index: 828.3 up 8.5
FT Gilts: 82.87 up 0.23
FT All Share: 496.06 up 2.94
Bargains: 21,929
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 108.66 up 0.11
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1158.19 up 3.56
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,920.27 down 110.43

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4775 down 1.3 cents
Index 82.9 down 0.4
DM 3.8575 down 0.0175
FrF 11.87 down 0.0350
Yen 345 down 3.0
Dollar
Index 127.0 up 0.4
DM 2.6105 up 0.0145
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4795
Dollar DM 2.6100
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.578935
SDR £0.711974

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 9⅛ - 9
3 month interbank 9⁵⁄₁₆ - 9³⁄₁₆
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10¹⁄₁₆ – 10³⁄₁₆
3 month DM 5⅞ - 5¾
3 month Fr F 16⅝ - 16⅜
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9¹¹⁄₁₆
Treasury long bond 98¹³⁄₃₂ - 98¹⁷⁄₃₂
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period January 4 to February 7, 1984 inclusive: 9.493 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $395.25 pm $392.75
close $393-393.50 (£266-266.50)
New York (latest): $392.75
Krugerrand* (per coin): $405-406.50 (£274-275)
Sovereigns* (new): $92-93 (£62.25-63)
*Excludes VAT

Bechtel likely to drop yard bid

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

Bechtel, the American construction company, is expected today to drop out of the bidding for the Scott Lithgow shipyard.

The company has been competing with Trafalgar House and Howard Doris, the Anglo-French rig builders, in the race to try to buy the Clydeside yard from British Shipbuilders. It has concentrated its efforts on agreeing terms with Britoil about how it would complete the oil company's unfinished rig, which is acknowledged on all sides as being critical to the chances of the yard being saved from closure.

A spokesman for Bechtel said last night: "We have put our proposals in to Britoil but what we have got to decide now is whether we pursue our plan, knowing what resistance there has been to it, particularly in political circles."

Bechtel acknowledged that Trafalgar House was still in the lead with its bid for the yard, and had offered more favourable terms to British Shipbuilders. Bechtel is only interested in completing the Britoil rig, whereas Trafalgar House has said it would also take on the unfinished rig, which BP cancelled this week and a naval vessel on Scott Lithgow's books.

Bechtel said that Trafalgar House had also agreed to take over some of Scott Lithgow's debts, and would be retaining a greater number of the workforce. "Their bid is more far-reaching than the one we are in a position to make", the spokesman said. "On the other hand we have always regarded Britoil as the lynchpin of the whole deal, and we have concentrated on making proposals that satisfy them".

Howard Doris is expected to press forward today with its bid in meetings with senior executives of British Shipbuilders. The company has also had a meeting with BP about its cancelled rig order, the first of the three bidders to do so.

● Govan Shipbuilders on the Upper Clyde has won a £30m order to build three large colliers for the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The order for the 20,000 ton vessels will be formally signed in Glasgow today at a ceremony to be attended by Scottish Office ministers and Mr Graham Day, British Shipbuilders chairman.

Clearers may face shake-up

By Peter Wilson-Smith
Banking Correspondent

A wide-ranging review of the bankers' clearing system has been set in train, and it could lead to a shake-up of how it is controlled and operated.

The system, which has 10 member banks and handles the millions of cheques and payments passing through the banks every day, has long been dominated by the big London clearing banks. It is owned by the six members of the Committee of London Clearing Bankers with four other banks including the Bank of England as functional members.

However, Citibank, the big American bank, and Standard Chartered both applied to become members last year and this, together with rapid technological developments, has precipitated the need for a thorough review.

There has been criticism in the past that the big banks deliberately made it difficult for newcomers to join the system, most recently from the National Consumer Council. However, the Bank of England has made clear that it sees no reason why *bona fide* newcomers should not be allowed in.

In one of its rare public utterances, the Bank yesterday warmly welcomed the review. It will participate in the review at operational level but a spokesman said yesterday it would also be keeping a close eye on the wider public interest "to ensure there is fair and reasonable access for new members."

Threatened Gulf looks for merger

From Nick Gilbert
New York

The bidding for Gulf is reaching new heights as the major US oil group desperately seeks a merger to outflank T Boone Pickens Jr, the Texas oil man who has been stalking Gulf for several months.

Mr Robert Anderson, chairman of Atlantic Richfield and former owner of *The Observer* newspaper, met James Lee, head of Gulf, in Pittsburgh this week to discuss a bid rumoured to top $13 billion. On Wall Street, Gulf is currently valued at $11.5 billion, based on a price of, $69.5 a share.

Standard Oil of California is interested, and the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, which last year bought most of Gulf's downstream European operations, is also thought to be taking a look.

Gulf, in its anxiety to stop Mr Pickens, is opening its books to interested parties, on condition they sign a non-disclosure agreement and agree to bid only if invited.

Mobil, the second largest oil company in the US, has reportedly refused these conditions, and after first saying it was interested only in certain Gulf assets, could step into the ring with a full bid.

The Gulf asking price is expected to soar to $15 billion, dwarfing the $10 billion Texaco paid for Getty Oil three weeks ago.

If Arco merged with Gulf, a vast oil, gas, coal and chemical combine would be created with assets approaching $30 billion and the merged company would become the top US petrol marketer.

But so far only Mr Pickens has a firm, though partial, offer on the table and time is running out for Gulf.

Mr Pickens, aged 56, is the head of Mesa, which he formed only 20 years ago with a group of dissident Gulf shareholders, he already controls 13 per cent of Gulf. The consortium is offering to spend a further $878m on a tender offer for a further 8 per cent of Gulf at $65 a share, which closes on March 21.

Hopes remain of cut in mortgage rate

By Our City Staff

The chairman's committee of the Building Societies Association meets today to discuss savings and mortgage rates ahead of next week's full council meeting. A final decision is certain to be delayed until the special council meeting on March 16, three days after the Budget.

February savings receipts could exceed the £926m net receipts in January, which was the second best month on record. Mortgage demand is picking up, however, and some societies may find margins squeezed by the recent big tax increase on gilts profits.

The imposition of the gilts tax will have widely different affects on societies. The Woolwich said yesterday it would only add about £2m to its tax bill this year and some other societies may have avoided much immediate impact by unloading gilt holdings before the midnight deadline for the new tax.

However, providing there are no big shocks in the Budget, there is still a fair chance of some reduction in mortgage rates in April or May.

Cluff Oil claims bid victory

By William Kay
City Editor

Mr J. G. "Algy" Cluff will today claim victory in his hard-fought £16m battle for control of Oil and Associated Investment Trust.

By the deadline of 3pm yesterday, holders of more than 60 per cent of Oil and Associated's shares had accepted the bid from the United Securities Market-quoted Cluff Oil. Officially, no comment was being made, but champagne was being uncorked at the City offices of Samuel Montagu, Cluff's merchant bank.

The deal amounts to a disguished rights issue for Cluff.

Mr Cluff has given himself little margin for error by making an offer valuing that portfolio at slightly more than its stated asset value.

The £16m or so cash which should be produced from the sale will be used to explore the leases which Cluff has won in the South China Sea.

The other obvious way of raising the money – with a rights issue of shares to his own shareholders – was effectively debarred by the failure of such an exercise last year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sterling slips 1.3 cents

The pound slipped yesterday, but this was seen on the foreign exchange markets as simply a hiccup in the fundamental new trend of dollar weakness. In a day of profit-taking, sterling actually lost 1.3 cents of its recent rise to close in London at $1.4775.

As the latest beneficiary of scepticism over the dollar in the face of a clear reference by Mr Martin Feldstein, the US President's chief economic adviser, and statements by Mr Paul Volcker, the head of the US Federal Reserve; the pound also experienced some profit-taking correction against continental currencies, particularly the more obviously undervalued Deutsche mark.

As a whole, sterling's trade-weighted average lost 0.4 to 82.9.

● **Company liquidity** fell back in the final quarter of last year after the sharp rise in the third quarter but remains at its highest levels for five years, according to the latest survey of 240 large companies by the Trade and Industry Department.

● **Leicester-based** British United Shoe Machinery, the world's largest shoe machinery and footwear materials plant, has won an order worth £2.7m to equip and start up a shoe factory in Lima, Peru.

● **American Airlines** has announced the purchase of 67 McDonnell Douglas MD-80 jetliners with options for an additional 100. It is the largest single order in the history of commercial aviation.

More funds for Africa sought by World Bank

From Bailey Morris, Washington

In response to sharply deteriorating conditions in Africa, The World Bank has started negotiations with the European Community and Japan to see if they wuld be prepared to increase their development aid contributions in the next year.

Senior bank officials said the talks were preliminary and no figures had been discussed, but the aim was to make up a serious shortfall in funds caused by the US insistence on limiting funding for the bank's International Development Agency to $9 billion a year.

Mr Ernest Stern, senior vice-president for operations, said: "The EEC countries are interested because of the impact on Africa. We have held talks, which are in the early stages, to explore the conditions under which countries might be willing to contribute more."

Bank officials want to negotiate a supplemental funding package which would raise the IDA's resources from $9 billion to the original $12 billion level, supported by almost all of the bank's donor nations

Mr Stern added: "Developments in subsahara Africa are very depressing and appear dismal for the rest of the decade."

Accepting houses and Big Four discuss Gower proposal

Banks unlikely to agree on self-regulation

By Philip Robinson

The City's elite band of merchant banks which make up the Accepting Houses Committee (AHC) is now meeting the Big Four street clearing banks to see if they can be grouped as one for the purposes of self-regulation. But it is unlikely they will reach agreement.

One self-regulatory group to cover the banks was suggested by Professor Laurence "Jim" Gower in his review of protection for the investors, which came out in January.

Publicly, the Merchant banks have not resisted being grouped with other banks, but the AHC points out that it has had few complaints of its investment activities and while customers are happy, money spent on administering self-regulation would be wasted.

The AHC made forceful protests two years ago when the Council for the Securities Industry, now rapidly trying to become tha main force in self-regulation, tried to draw up a City-wide code of conduct, governing the behaviour of investment and fund managers.

The banks said then that they had their own in-house rules for fund managers and these had proved more than adequate.

Mr Robin Hutton, director-general of the AHC, said: "What we would like to see is one self-regulatory group which would include the merchant banks and all those competing for the same business: stockbrokers, insurance companies, unit trusts, and clearing banks.


Professor Gower: registration urged

But that may prove rather impractical."

However, the merchant banks would not want to burden their customers with a large self regulatory organization whose cost would doubtless increase fees, he said.

Should a wide-ranging self-regulatory agency not be possible, the AGC would like to see an agency made up of just its own members.

In his report, Professor Gower said that he would like everyone who deals with investment of the public's money to be registered, either with a self-regulatory agency authorized by the Department of Trade and Industry or by the department itself.

His solution would be to create four important self-regualtory agencies

Reaction to his report must reach the Department of Trade by April 30. The Council for the Securities Industry has already broadly welcomed his recommendations, but has yet to detail its response.

Profits jump at office systems group

Consultants (Computer and Financial), which sells in-house office systems to stockbrokers, yesterday pleased the City with yearly profits up from £125,000 to £495,000, on turnover nearly £800,000 ahead at £2.1m. The final dividend is 4.2p, making a total of 6p against 3p last time.

Because the shares have become so heavy in the past year, they are to be subdivided from 10p par value to 5p, followed by a four-for-one scrip issue. This means that shareholders will have eight shares in the new form for every one held now, and the price will be slimmed down accordingly.

Mr Tim Simon, the chairman, says that he is investigating new geographic areas, together with the possibility of selling software on a royalty basis through agents overseas.

He adds: "The group can look forward to steady growth on a greatly increased product and client base." Another new area being explored is leasing.

In brief

● **Powerline International for USM:** Powerline International announces that 32 per cent of its issued ordinary share capital (3.44m shares) is being offered for sale by Kleinwort, Benson at 160p per share. Brokers to the issue are James Capel & Co. Application has been made for permission to deal in the capital in the Unlisted Securities Market. The application list will open at 10.00 am on March 8 and dealings are expected to start on March 14.

Powerline is the marketing, distribution and servicing of electronic supplies and its associate, Europower, in their design and assembly. Its technical sales force services more than 1,400 customers, no-one of which accounted for more than 6 per cent of turnover in 1983. Directors estimate that UK market for electronic power supplies is well in excess of £100m at 1983 values. The market is fragmented and not dominated by one supplier. The directors believe there is considerable potential for Powerline to increase both its sales and market share.

● **Ratcliffs (Great Bridge):** Dividend for 1983 unchanged at 1.75p net a share. Figures in £000. Group loss attributable 126 (191) after all charges.

● **W. N. Sharpe:** Year to Dec 31, 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 17,506 (15,910). Pretax profit 4,920 (4,999). Total dividend up from 9p to 12p net a share.

● **Courtney Pope (Holdings):** Half-year to Nov 30, 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 17,950 (14,947). Pretax profit 580 (480). Interim payment up form 1.6p to 2p net a share.

● **Quadrex Securities:** Quadrex, the international investment banking company based in London, reports retained earnings, after tax, of £1.3m for 1983. Net assets amounted to £5.3m, with fixed assets of £1.5m, and net current assets of £3.8m. Quadrex operates with £4m of share capital. The chairman said "we are very pleased with our accomplishemts during our first year of operation."

● **Polytechnic Marine:** Half-year to Nov 30, 1984. Board intends to recommend a divident for the current year of 2p a share. Figures in £00. Turnover 1,916 (1,475). Pretax profit 425 (345). This is the company's first interim results since its placing on the USM. The current order book underlines that the present growth level appears to be sustainable, says the board, though the electronics industry is facing an increasng problem obtaining suitable supplies of quality components.

● **EIB Loans:** Water supply and sewerage schemes in South Yorkshire, Devon and Cornwall are being supported with the equivalent of £13.5m in two loans from the European Investment Bank.

● **Tavener Rutledge:** No dividend for 1983 (same). Figures in £000. Pre and post-tax profit 112 (219 loss).

● **Flogas** has reached agreement, subject to contract, with Cawoods to acquire an offshoot, Portagas, an LPG marketing and distribution company based in Britain, for £1.2m. The ultimate holding of Portagas is Redland. The finance required by Flogas to fund its expansion in Britain has been arranged by Development Capital Corp. in conjunction with Investors In Industry Ireland.

● **Albert Fisher:** Relating to the Henry Long Transport & Northside Truck Centre, together with the fixed assets of Bradford Properties, the acquisition agreement provides for a deferred consideration of £457,686 to be satisfied on November 21, 1984. Fisher board has agreed with the vendor, Ocean Transport & Trading, to satisfy the deferred consideration now for an agreed sum of £431,000 by the issue to Ocean of 515,580 ordinary shares in Fisher.

Sarah Hogg begins a series on the Bank of England by talking to one of its top men

The Old Lady plays nursemaid to a reborn City

Five new members took their seats at the Court of the Bank of England yesterday – completing a change of generations that has taken place in only two years. Since early 1982, the Bank has acquired a new Governor, economic adviser and three out of four of its executive directors.

The outside guard of non-executive directors has changed too. And "advisers' alley", where the elder statesmen of the Bank used to reside, is suddenly almost empty.

This new generation of Bank men faces a new set of issues: the upheaval in their ranks coincides with an upheaval in the Bank's surrounding territory. Since the Stock Exchange Bill freed the City from the paralysis induced by the case before the Restrictive Practices Court, all Britain's disparate financial institutions have been exercising their muscles – and eyeing the Bank.

The Bank, in turn, has been feeling its way towards a new relationship with the Department of Trade and Industry, suddenly a government department of almost greater importance in its life than the Treasury.

Next week the new Govenor, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, will make his most important speech yet – on the sensitive subject of "institutional liberalisation" in the City. Like all Governor's speeches, it will be the quintessence of opinion in the Bank. The most significant inputs will come from the two most prominent representatives of the new generation at the top of the Bank, Messrs Eddie George and David Walker.

Both Mr George and Mr Walker are executive directors, though only in their mid-40s. They reflect the Bank's particular and general concerns with institutional change. Mr George is ultimately responsible for the effective operation of the gilts market – where the Ban, with responsibility for government funding, is very definitely an interested party.

Mr Walker, in charge of "industry and finance", can take a more detached view. His prime concern is a healthy securities market, serving the interests of public and private borrowers and making a better living for Britain by recapturing its share of lost market.

Recently he talked to me about the Bank's attutude to change – and the role it was prepared to play in bringing those changes about.

Mr Walker's summary of the Bank's interests is straightforward enough: "The Bank's prominent concerns in the change that is taking place are to ensure that liqud markets are maintained or strengthened for the benefit of both borrowers and investors; to ensure that high standards are maintained and that the interest of investors and clients is satisfactorily protected; and that London markets and houses are competitive and secure a significant share of the rapidly expanding world securities market."

Apart from the much-debated issue of investor protection, the two key words there are "liquid" and "competitive". Liquidity in the gilt-edged market is a prime interest of the Bank's, though Mr Walker puts in his word for the interests of industrial borrowers in a liquid market too.

It relates particularly to an issue that much interests the City: the Bank's attitude to foreign, in particular American, entry into the British markets as the Stock Exchange's rules change.

There is a natural ambivalence in the Bank's attitude to foreign entrants. On the one hand, the extra liquidity is attractive to the salesmen of government debt. On the other, there is a fear that if the big Americans came to dominate the gilts market and then went to sleep on the Government, the Bank would find itself in difficulties.

Mr Walker's view is sensibly conditioned by a desire to see British firms competing more energetically abroad: "We cannot compete effectively in international markets without allowing foreigners to become involved here. But we would not of course want to see foreign firms, which are immensely better capitalized than our own, throw their group balance sheets at the London market; that would be like inviting an elephant to a tea party."

So what's the answer? "Rules and understandings", says Mr Walker, "will be needed to deal with this and I am sure that foreign firms that come here will be keen to abide by them." Clearly, one of the rules this suggests would be some kind of separate capitalization for the London operations of the big Americans. Quite what other restrictions the Bank could satisfactorily evolve that allow American elephants access to the gilts party without upsetting the tea are not so clear.

But Mr Walker, from his position in the Bank, has a prime interest in reviving the British securities industry, not dealing with the Americans. "There are", he believes, "three keys to London's greater success in the world securities market – competence, capital and competitiveness. We have a large natural advantage in the time zone between New York and Tokyo: but achieving better competitiveness to enabe us to exploit this will require more nourishment of competence with capital."

While the Stock Exhange lay immobilized by legal action, the British securities industry lost ground it will be hard to recapture. With hindsight, many in the Bank now admit it should have fought harder to keep the Stock Exhange clear of the lawyers' delays involved in court action. As an example of how the industry has been losing business, the Bank has carried out a study of about 20 pension funds, showing that 95% of the outflow of capital that followed from the abolition of exchange controls was handled by non-British institutions. As markets were opened up, British firms were less and less able to compete.

So what changes would the Bank like to encourge to "nourish competence with capital"? Here, naturally, Mr Walker was cautious: "The Bank has a good deal of diffidence about these matters and does not in any sense wish to produce a blueprint for change. It was not the object to replace the fiat of Restrictive Practices Court by fiat of the authorities. The prime change has to come from within the securities industry itself and, while the Bank is ready and able to act as an agent for change or catalyst, this means an immediate degree of Bank involvement in these matters which is not likely to persist after the immediate "quantum jump" phrase has passed, and a new steady state is reached.

What, it seems the Bank would like to encourage is the formation of a strong British group of institutions capable of of competing in a more open British market, and abroad. But, though it is possible to see the chain of changes in Stock Exchange 'rules that would permit this, at the moment both sides seem to be playing a waiting game.

After the initial flurry of activity among outsiders, bagging good positions around the entry ports of the Stock Exchange, the spate of takeovers has slowed down to a trickle. Senior brokers have been asked into the Bank in order to canvass their views of the future shape of the City, but one gets the impression of a dialogue in which both sides are more anxious to find out what the other has to say than reveal their own opinions. At the moment, of course, the ball is in the Stock Exchange's court; until it has taken a preliminary series of decisions the next stage of the game cannot begin.

But if the British industry is to get itself in shape for that phase, it needs to get on with the job. There is talk of behind-the-scenes involvement by the Bank of a more purposive kind; aternatively, it is argued that the Bank will keep a hand on the brakes of change until it feels the industry has got its act together. (In the gilt-edged markets, it has also to be sure the Bank itself is ready for change.)

The Bank has the delicate task of nursemaiding change without turning into a permanent governess – as many in the City suspect it may. But Mr Walker has experience in steering the Bank in and out of sensitive territory. During the ealy 1980s, he was the man who effectively ran the Government's industrial policy.

While the politicians stoutly mainatained it would offer no crutches to lame ducks, it encouraged the Bank of England to patch together several rescue operations. Now Mr Walker quotes this experience as an example of how the Bank can bcome engaged and then withdraw: "During the disagreeable years of industrial crisis, problems involved so many banks that the Bank found it necessary to take a lead in sorting things out. Now it is withdrawing, leaving the lead banks to run such multi-bank negotiations."

Sorting things out is a prime task for the Bank. But the end moment of this particular engagement is less easy to discern.

David Walker: in charge of industry and finance

APPOINTMENTS

Sir Kenneth named as director

Aitken Hume Holdings: Sir Kenneth Cork has become a director.

British Airports International: Mr Don Turner, planning director for the British Airports Authority, is now the chairman of BAI.

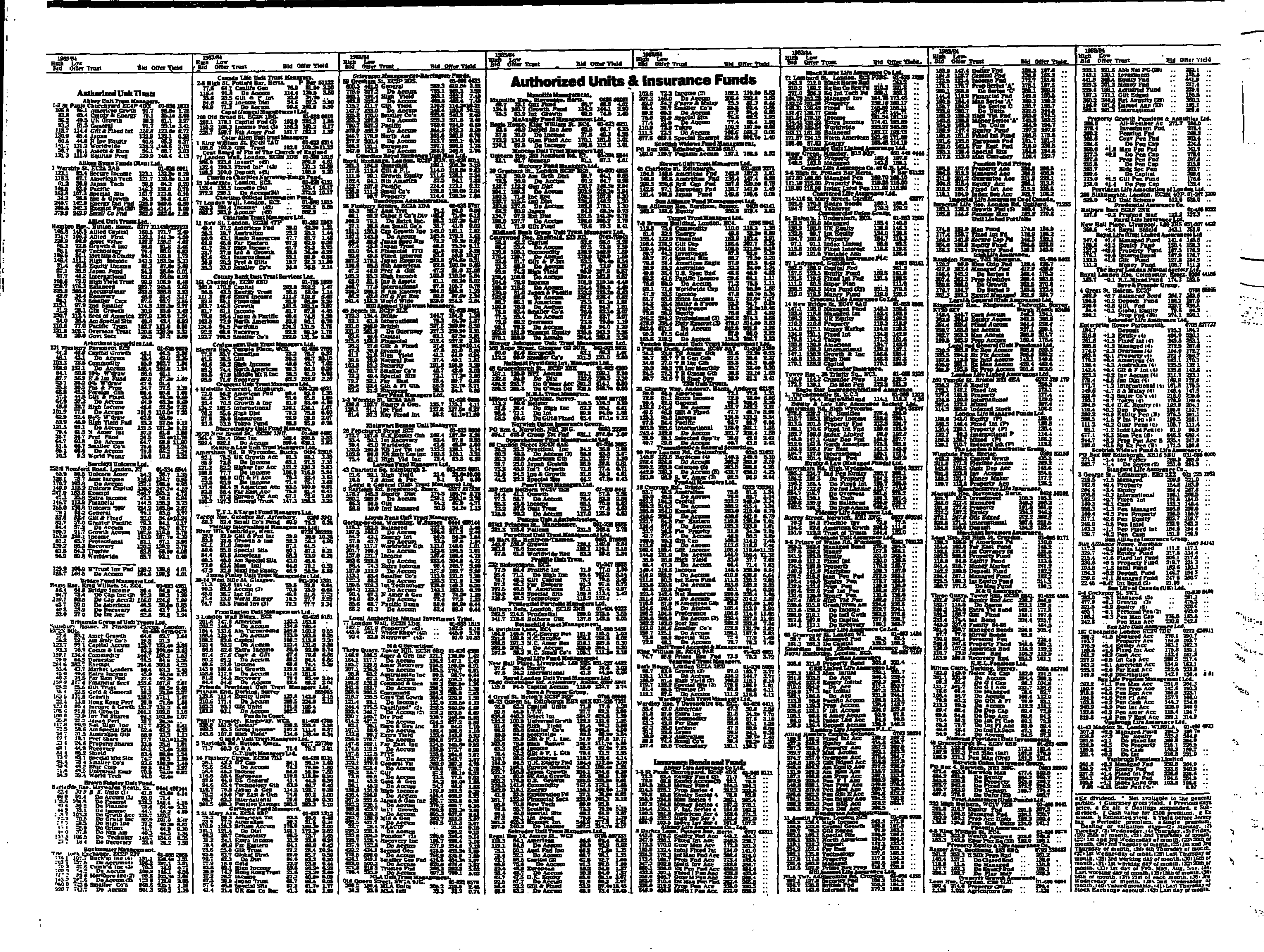
Pressac Holdings: Mr Roger Boissier has become a director.

BSR International: Mr Alex Wu has been made a non-executive director.

Desoutter Brothers (Holdings): Mr C. R. Desoutter is now marketing director of Desoutter Limited.

Pernod Ricard International: M Claude de Jouvencel, currently managing director of J. R. Parkington, is to return to Paris as Pernod Ricard International's vice-president for sales and marketing from September 1. M Michel Eberlin will take over as managing director of Parkington. He is currently sales manager for Europe and Northern America. M Jean-Louis Lepeltier is to expand his duties as financial director to become deputy managing director of Parkington as well.

Old Course Golf and Country Club: Mr Paul Phillips has been appointed as executive director, to be responsible for the operation in St Andrews.



Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

هكذا من الأصل

WALL STREET

Dow up in early trading

Wall Street prices were mixed in active early trading. The Dow Jones industrial average, which lost 2.51 on Wednesday, was up 2.09 points to 1156.72 shortly after the market opened. Declines led advances 444-355 among the 1,228.

Analysts said prices could go in any direction but noted that recent volatility could signal that a levelling off process was about to emerge.

With Wall Street already nervous about the course of interest rates, many investors were waiting for the Federal Reserve to report later in the day on the nation's money supply.

Investors were encouraged by last week's report of a smaller-than-expected $300m (£201m) increase, but there was speculation about a $3 billion increase in the latest reading.

	Feb 29	Feb 28		Feb 29	Feb 28		Feb 29	Feb 28
AMF Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fst Intrst Bncp	[illegible]	[illegible]	PPG Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMR	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fst Penn Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Proctor Gamble	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allied Chem	[illegible]	[illegible]	Ford	[illegible]	[illegible]	Pub Ser El & Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allied Stores	[illegible]	42	GAF Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Raytheon	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	[illegible]	[illegible]	GTE Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	RCA Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alcoa	[illegible]	39	Gen Dynamics	48	[illegible]	Republic Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amax Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Electric	[illegible]	[illegible]	Reynolds Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amerada Hess	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Foods	48	[illegible]	Reynolds Metal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Mills	[illegible]	[illegible]	Rockwell Int	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Broadcast	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Motors	69	[illegible]	Royal Dutch	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Can	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Pub Util NY	[illegible]	[illegible]	Safeways	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Cyanamid	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Tire	[illegible]	[illegible]	St Regis Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Elec Power	[illegible]	[illegible]	Genesco	[illegible]	[illegible]	SPS Jopac	[illegible]	23
Am Home	53	[illegible]	Georgia Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]			

*Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution b Bid k Market closed n New issue p Stock split. t Traded y Unquoted

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Significant profit-taking on sterling's recent rise left it down 1.3 cents on the dollar at 1.477 and easier against most Continental currencies and the yen in foreign exchange markets yesterday. The pound's trade wighted index was down 0.4 at the close on 82.9.

Sterling finished ¾ of a pfennig lower on the Deutsche mark at 3.8675 after 3.8625, and 3⅛ centimes cheaper to French francs at 11.87 from an opening level of 11.9325. It gave up 1½ centimes to the Swiss franc at 3.2150 and 2 Dutch cents against the guilder at 4.3525 as well as slipping 3 yen at 345.

Statements by Mr Paul Volcker, the US Federal Reserve's chairman, had volatile effects on the dollar, according to the dealers. They pointed to a clash of private lending and public deficits creating risks, sending the US unit higher, and claims that a $50 billion cut in deficits could cut interest rates, sending the dollar down.

MONEY MARKET

There was a more bullish feel about the market yesterday, although there was no real surface movement in the period rates.

The market opened a little nervously in view of the huge shortage, but gradually sentiment improved and buyers began to show an interest.

The main periods of activity in sterling CDs were those ranging from five to 10 months.

Interbank, overnight money traded at about 9¼ per cent for the most part, although the rate slipped away to 7 per cent for last dealings.

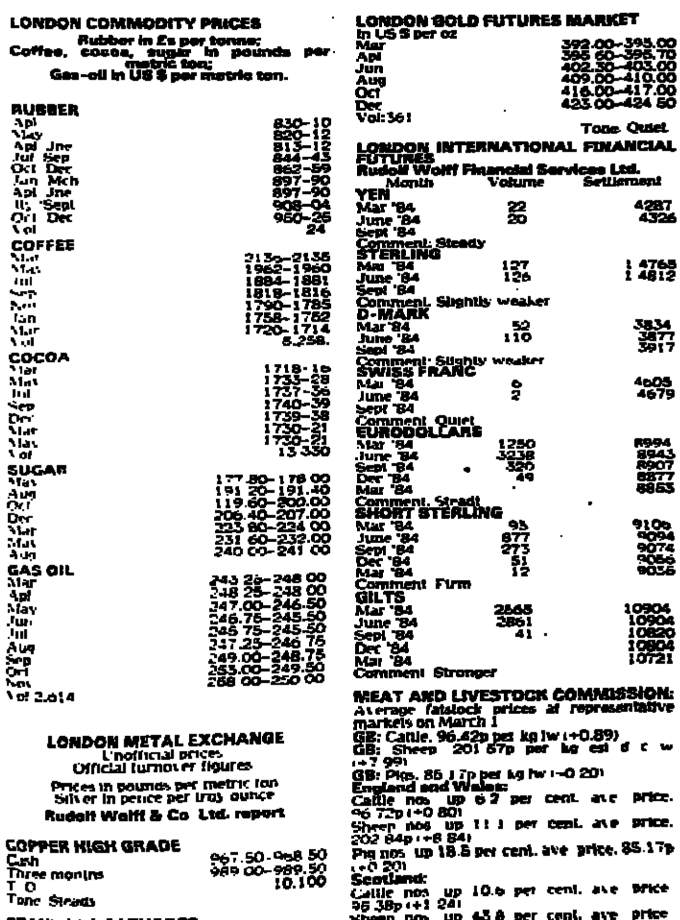
Local authority markets were rather quiet overall, although one-year was notable for brief spells of activity.

Dollar rates tended to be slightly harder if anything, behind an overnight rise in the "Fed" funds rate in New York.

The Bank of England made a big effort to relieve the £800m shortage in the money market.

An early round of offers was invited which resulted in the authorities purchasing £137m of bills outright across the four bands at established rates and arranging sale-and-repurchase agreements on £207m of bills to March 28 at 9 per cent interest.

COMMODITIES


LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Rubber in £s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Apl	830-10
May	820-12
Apl Jne	813-12
Jul Sep	844-43
Oct Dec	862-59
Jan Mch	897-90

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz

Mar	392.00-395.00
Apl	395.60-395.70
Jun	402.30-403.00
Aug	409.00-410.00
Oct	416.00-417.00
Dec	423.00-424.50

Vol: 361. Tone Quiet

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 1
GB: Cattle, 96.42p per kg lw (+0.89)
GB: Sheep 201.57p per kg est d c w (+7.99)
GB: Pigs, 86.17p per kg lw (-0.20)
England and Wales:
Cattle nos up 6.7 per cent, ave price, 96.72p (+0.80)
Sheep nos up 11.1 per cent, ave price, 202.84p (+6.84)
Pig nos up 18.5 per cent, ave price, 85.17p (+0.20)
Scotland:
Cattle nos up 10.6 per cent, ave price 95.38p (+1.24)
Sheep nos up 43.8 per cent, ave price 198.23p (+6.10)

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6½%, £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¾%, £50,000 and over, 7¼%

MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Index gains 8.5 on hopes of cut in stamp duty

Dealers took a positive line yesterday on the outcome of the Chancellor's forthcoming Budget, which was good news for shares.

The FT index managed to close near its "high" for the day, 8.5 up at 828.3, while the FT-SE 100 index rose 5.8 to 1046.1.

There is growing optimism that the Government may reduce to 2½ per cent stamp duty on all share purchases and that is likely to encourage more business. Leading shares were all marked higher, partly helped by an impressive set of full-year figures and an accompanying scrip issue from **Royal Insurance**. Royal itself ended the day 20p higher at 523p and **General Accident** added another 6p to 466, still reflecting Wednesday's profits. **Commercial Union** on 173p and **Guardian Royal Exchange** on 516p, both closed unchanged on the day, but **Phoenix Assurance**, due to report shortly, tumbled 14p to 446p.

But life insurance companies and banks were again under a cloud. One big institution decided to heed yesterday's report in *The Times* about the possible repercussions for the "lifers" in the Budget over their investments in gilts and sold its entire holding in **Hambro Life**. Broker Rowe & Pitman placed 1.5 million shares in the company, followed by a further 750,000 at a lower price later in the day.

Hambro ended the day 35p lower at 421p. There was still no sign of the losses being staunched elsewhere in the sector after the Inland Revenue's decision to tax building societies at 40 per cent on their gilts investments. **Britannic** fell 23p to 473p, **Equity & Law** 35p to 770p, **Legal & General** 27p to 471p, **London & Manchester** 25p to 483p, **Pearl Assurance** 49p to 782p, **Prudential** 27p to 433), **Refuge Assurance** 21p to 413p and **Sun Life** 35p to 579p.

Shares of Britain's High Street banks were also in ragged retreat. There are grwing feras that the Government may impose a levy on all consumer credit transactions in adsdition to a poswible windfall tax on the bank's profits. **LLoyds** led the way lower, with a fall of 18p to 579p closely folowed by **Barclays** 13p to 529p, **National Westminster** 10p to 724p and **Midland** 8p to 379p.

Casting around for the next Brick bid target, all eyes are on Ibstock Johnson. But watch specialist brick maker Blockleys. Annual profits next month are likely to be a record £700,000 and expansion minded C. H. Beazer (Holdings) owns an estimated 17 per cent of the group. Blockleys shares closed last night at 370p, near its high for the year.

Gilts scored gains of up to £1½, still reflecting hopes of another cut in bank base rates before the Budget. The Government Broker was able to supply some amounts of the "tap" Exchequer, 9¾ per cent, 1989, at £25¼ partly paid.

But prices generally closed below their best levels of the day, with dealers reporting only scattered movements at the shorter end of the market after hours.

Renewed US support boosted ICI in the wake of last week's figures with the shares climbing 8p to 582p in ex-dividend form. Elsewhere, **Beecham** was well supported, with a 13p rise to 331p following overnight buying of the shares on Wall Street.

Glaxo also sported a 15p rise to 760p and there were helpful gains in **BOC Group**, 3p to 201p, **Turner and Newall**, 3p to 95p, **Unilever**, 17p to 945p and **Peninsular &Oriental**, 3p to 276p. **Tate & Lyle** improved 12p to 400p after the annual meeting.

London Brick spurted another 7p to 182p as investors decided it was a cheap way into **Hanson Trust**, up 1p at 176p. The new Hanson loan stock being offered as an alternative to the cash bid of 165p opened life on a firm note. This 8 per cent stock started dealings at £125 and closed at £126¼ as about £8m-worth changed hands. Hanson Trust has now replaced London Brick among the FT index constituents.

LRC International rose 8p to 110p following a bullish circular from broker James Capel, which is optimistic about the outcome for the current years trading.

Northern Goldsmiths rose 2p to 208p after the £1.1m deal to buy nine of the 27 betting shops allowed on the tax-haven island of Jersey. Northern will have to pay a further £400,000 if turnover comes up to promised levels. It has bought bookmakers Turf Investors and Jack Carp through a newly-formed company, PTS Jersey. Northern, once thought of as a contender to bid for James Walker, says it owns no shares now and is not interested in making a bid. However, the market expects other Jersey-based leisure-related deals shortly.

British Aerospace rose 8p to 250p ahead of the Government's announcement on state aid for the new Airbus, but the shares closed only 1p firmer at 243p following the Government statement.

Electricals were a buoyant market as several large buyers appeared on the scene. GEC responded 8p to 183p on the suggestion that one buyer was bidding for 2.5 million shares. It was also enough to support other leading electrical shares which seem to be enjoying a new lease of life recently. **Thorn EMI** hardened 10p to 620p. Only **Plessey** bucked the trend slipping 1p to 222p on profit-taking after recent speculation about a new big US contract.

Dealers yesterday reported heavy call option business in this week's newcomer Petranol, the British oil exploration group, which has decided to go looking for oil in Texas. Investors are apparently hopeful that Petranol will have some good news for their shareholders in early May – well within the scope of a three month call option. The shares rose 7p to 150p – a premium of 25p.

The oil sector also sported solid gains, helped by the increased fighting between Iran and Iraq. **BP** rose 9p to 440p, **Shell** 10p to 641p and **Atlantic Resources** 20p to 508p.

London & Northern Group encountered profit-taking, sliding 3½p to 83½p. The group's overseas hospital division, Allied Medical Group, has renewed its hospital management contracts in the United Arab Emirates at an annual value of about £45m. It is continuing its management consultancy services at the Riyadh and Al Kharj military hospitals in Saudi Arabia for the time being.

Mr Michael Ashcroft's **Coleman Milne** has increased its stake in **Henlys**, the car distributor, with the purchase of an extra 700,000 in exchange for an estimated 1.4 million shares in Coleman Milne. This takes Coleman's stake up to 20 per cent. Henlys' largest independent shareholder is the Bank of Scotland, with just under 30 per cent. Henlys raced up 7p to 121p on the news.

Mr Michael Ashcroft said yesterday that he was broadening Coleman's asset base. Under the Takeover rules he may buy up to 5 per cent each week, up to the bid-triggering 29.9 per cent limit. But if Henlys' price moves up, he could sell the stake to leave Coleman cash-rich.

Freemans, the South London-based mail-order catalogue group, held steady at 106p, after the Prudential Corp announced it had been adding to its shareholding. The "Pru" now owns 3.61 million shares, or 5.11 per cent of the total.

Over on the Unlisted Securities Market, **Denmans Electrical**, the electrical products wholesaler, made a healthy start in first-time dealings after stockbroker Stock Beech had placed 443,000 shares at 162p. The opening price was 175p – a premium of 13p – and a level the shares held for the rest of the day.

Wednesday's newcomer **Dewey Warren**, the Lloyds insurance broker floated off from **Argyle Trust**, again opened firm, but encountered profit-taking as the day wore on. The shares closed only 2p higher at 115p, after 118p, compared with the placing price of 105p.

Consultants (Computer and Financial) responded with a 40p rise to 690p, following a fourfold rise in profits and a share-split and scrip. Pretax profits jumped from £125,000 to £496,000 for 1983 on turnover almost doubled at £2.1m.

Applied Computer Techniques went ex-rights following its recent £17.2m rights issue, with the ordinary shares climbing 20p to 698p before closing unchanged on the day at 678p. The new nil-paid shares opened at 173p and after hitting 193p, lost ground to close at about its opening level.

ACT makes and distributes the Apricot personal computer. This was the group's third fund-raising exercise in less than three years.

Speculative demand was good for a 13p rise on **Paterson Jenks** at 188p, while **Usher Walker** rose 25p to 193p in a thin market for a similar reason.

Stylo firmed 26p to 286p after learning that Mr Phil Harris's **Harris Queensway** had found acceptances totalling 48 per cent for his unwelcomed bid of £35m. Shares of Harris Queensway greeted the news calmly, holding steady at 314p.

Building shares were a firm market, with selective support for **Erith**, up 4p at 77p, **Wolsey-Hughes**, 7p at 548p. Among the building suppliers, **Pilington Bros.** stood out with a rise of 7p to 295p, while **Blue Circle** added 2p to 425p and **RMC Group** 1p to 424p.

Contracting and construction also had firm spots in **AMEC** 7p to 232p, **Ben Bailey** 2p to 33p, **CH Beazer** 8p to 330p, **Bryant Holdings** 4p to 68p

Bright idea that went through the roof

By Michael Clark

Success has arrived early for Dennis Bradley, a former design engineer with Chrysler, who by chance two years ago took a look at the independent makes of sun roofs available for cars on the market, and decided they left a lot to be desired.

Many leaked, were expensive and awkward to fit. So he designed his own with the cost and ability to fit the roof easily as his two main targets. After that he decided to set up on his own and, after mortgaging his house and raising a £75,000 loan from his local bank under the Loan Guarantee Scheme, formed Arrowin Ltd.

In February 1982, with a team of five, he took over a 2,500 sq ft factory and warehouse in Wolverhampton. Four months later Arrowin's Solarport sun roofs were rolling off the production line and selling at £40 each worth over £600,000 in the first year. The Solarport took an average hour to install in most makes of car by an experienced fitter and soon Arrowin was established as one of the biggest sun roof manufacturers in the country.

Within 18 months Mr Bradley had been able to pay back his bank loan and was looking to increase the factory and warehouse space to 22,000 sq ft. This year Arrowin hopes to produce 170,000 sun roofs and has introduced a new – Olympus – range after further investment costing £250,000. The new range, uses a strong glass reinforced polyester offering a two-year "no quibble" guarantee.

Arrowin hopes to use this new range to spearhead its invasion of Europe where only two cars in 10 are fitted with a sun roof. Arrowin hopes to become Europe's largest manufacturer of sun roofs by the year end with sales of almost £5m.

The Olympus range also offers an upmarket version, The Imperial, costing £170 compared with £80 at the bottom end of the range.

Sales last year were helped by the fine weather and introduction of the A registration which boosted car sales.

Mr Bradley maintains the only way he has been able to take on the older established companies is by presenting a good design which can be made and fitted easily. Low costs and quick delivery are two other important factors.

Arrowin hopes to be able to maintain growth – possibly with the help of acquisition – and eventually will be looking for a public quote.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

'Total service' video studio sees production-line profits

By Derek Harris

Tim Mein and Mike Croker, joint managing directors of Frontline Video in London's Covent Garden, have come up with what is, for the video and film business, a cheaper mousetrap that gets jobs done at much lower prices.

The result, after a start-up bank loan of £100,000, has been growth in four years from £180,000 annual turnover to this year's £750,000, with £1m in sight for the next financial year.

Additionally, £400,000-worth of equipment which has put them ahead in their sector of the video business has been financed out of their own cash flow without additional borrowings.

The pair have already turned down a takeover offer and are now contemplating a quote on the Unlisted Securities Market, possibly by this year's end, because they foresee a growth need arising from the potential of new markets they have been tapping.

Frontline claims to be the only British video production company with a total in-house service in what is known as the non-transmission field. This means Frontline produces video and film programmes not for public broadcasting but, for example, for product launches and company promotions.

John Voos



Tim Mein, left, and Mike Croker: a quote on the USM is likely

Frontline produces the total package, from shooting and editing to the video copies.

The main option in the past for companies planning corporate video or film promotions has been to produce material to broadcasting standards.

"One leading company was quoted a budget of around £60,000 for a 30-minute corporate promotional film," said Mr Croker. "Last year we turned out a 20-minute promotional programme for Levi Strauss on new product launches, for around £6,500."

Lower prices are opening up the corporate market, he says. Frontline claims that its productions to non-broadcast standards are more than adequate in quality, with savings arising from systems used. An example is the computerised editing suite that speeds as well as eases editing by allowing the job to be done entirely at a keyboard.

Equipment packs the converted warehouse Frontline uses in Covent Garden. A dozen people now work in the business, including the two principals. In the last trading year fully reported, on a turnover of £550,000 net profit before tax was £180,000, although Mr Croker expects profit margins will have been rather more squeezed in the year just finished.

Frontline's clients include a number of leading advertising agencies.

Even Tyne Tees Television came to Frontline last year to get a promotional half-hour presentation on Tyneside put together. Frontline's cheaper technology was a better option to the television company's own, according to Mr Croker.

BRIEFING

■ Britain's first franchised accountancy service – which are fairly commonplace in the United States – starts on a new growth path this week which could lead to a chain of 40 by the year end, Derek Harris writes. The Accounting Information Development Service is targeted directly at small businesses, a potential market of 700,000 or more clients.

The London-based service, of which 35-year-old Mike Salinger is chairman and managing director, already has 400 clients but franchising is seen as a path to growth given the service has a mainframe computer on tap capable of preparing clients' accounts monthly.

A crucial part of the service is that the network of accountants interpret the figures for their local clients, thus offering a management accounting service.

The present nine Aids franchisees rises to 14 this week and the Salinger aim is to recruit 200 in five years. An Aids franchise outside London costs £5,000 and in central London £10,000. The franchisee pays to Aids 10 per cent in royalties and 40 per cent of the selling price of computer-processed work.

Small businesses that usually cannot afford an accountant are likely to be the most interested in the service which could cost companies of this kind between £200 and £300 a month for the management accounts. There is a setting up charge usually of not much more than £200, says Mr Salinger.

● Contact: Aids, Elscot House, Arcadia Avenue, Finchley Central, London N3 2JE; telephone (01) 349 3191 or telex 297358 Aids G.

■ Barclays Bank is to spend more than £15,000 on subsidizing the sales trips of 20 British exporters to the West Coast of the United States – with instant credit available for any deals they do (John Lawless writes).

Mr Malcolm Stephens, Barclays' international finance director, said: "We have been urging British firms to take advantage of the growing US market and we are now putting our money where our mouth is."

As with the first sales mission which Barclays sponsored, late last year to Houston, Texas, Mr Stephens will make cash available for any American customers the exporters find. It should especialy help smaller companies taking part in the mission.

It will do so through what is known as an associated bank endorsement (ABE), which is insured by the Export Credits Guarantee Department. It expects to lend about £10m to its local Barclays branches to enable the exporters to complete on-the-spot, risk-free deals.

Invitations to join the mission are being sent out by the co-organiser, the London Chamber of Commerce, offering a £700 travel subsidy to each salesman.

It goes to Los Angeles, San Fransisco and Seattle in May, with more than a dozen target-sectors having already been chosen by the bank's American business specialists, working with British Government trade officials.

The Government is now seriously concerned that British firms are failing to benefit from the economic recovery on the West Coast.

Mr Stephens said: "Only 2.6 per cent of total imports through southern California came from Britain, compared with 4.7 per cent from West Germany and 42.9 per cent from Japan."

Target-sectors range from aerospace and defence equipment, to antiques and cider.

● Contact: London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB; telephone (01) 248 4444.

MR FRIDAY Ken Pyne

'I'm afraid you can't see him – he's gone to another seminar on how to improve services to small business'

When early warning is vital to rescue a sinking ship

Reforms on insolvency law were projected in a White Paper this week. It serves notice that company directors will carry more responsibilities for company failures. But why do smaller businesses fail? Wayne Lintott investigates the patterns of failure.

There is some irony in the fact that the most widespread reason for small companies going bust is overtrading. The problem is concentration on increased turnover without having first ensured that adequate capital is available.

While the small business principal can justifiably argue that higher turnover will one day work through to profits, banks are usually averse to increasing their exposure with further overdrafts and loans. The small business usually then turns increasingly to putting off payment to creditors.

That path has many pitfalls and by the time an entrepreneur realizes that there is serious financial difficulty, it is usually too late to save the business.

Not surprisingly, the two creditors who most usually initiate the winding up are the tax authorities and the clearing banks.

That is not likely to change when the insolvency law reforms come in. But there will be a possibility of a moratorium of debtors through the courts being enabled to appoint a new figure called an administrator able to take over a company's management at an earlier stage than receivers.

It is by no means clear yet how far this will approach the United States system where a company can continue trading while a rescheduling of debt is organized by a court.

Directors must weigh carefully the choice between continuing a business which is under pressure and trading on where there is an awareness of insolvency with the legal consequences that involves for the directors.

It is a popular misconception that the clearing banks cut the umbilical cord as soon as they spot trouble. In fact, there are a number of large well known publicly quoted corporations being kept afloat today by the banking lifeboat.

The difficulty for the directors is finding a sympathetic and helpful ear at an early stage in the development of problems.

The problem financial advisers have found most recurrent and most destructive is director's own self delusion, often naively hoping for some minor miracle.

Derrick Woolf: face up to problems in time

A perspective on this comes from Derrick Woolf, an insolvency specialist and partner in a North West chartered accountancy practice, Levy Gee and Partners.

His advice is contact a specialist as early as possible. Although this means facing the problems at an early stage: the result is usually positive.

He outlined five cases where clearing banks employed his firm to analyse companies having trouble. The recommedation in all cases was that a further injectio of permanent capital be made but that the banks should monitor the situations much more closely. In two of the cases, outside capital could not be found. But three of the companies are still trading and performance has improved.

He pointed out that most banks and financial institutions have specialist departments to help companies in difficulty. But cooperation among banker, accountant and directors at the earliest possible stage, could drastically reduce the company failure rate.

Mr Woolf said that if directors dealt with problems early, there was a number of alternatives for raising extra capital. The Government's Business Expansion Scheme, venture capital firms, small banks, funds and institutions could all be approached.

Even when a compulsory liquidation is forced all is still not lost. The banks accept that in 90 per cent of the cases they will not get their full return and once again opt for keeping as much of the business going as is feasible.

A case of work after work

By Vivien Goldsmith

Tony Moore, once a director of Costain International, the builders, is now a consultant on a project to turn an old East End slipper baths into a social club.

He said: "I retired a bit early, so it was what to do with the rest of my life. Someone suggested charity work, but I'd never done anything for nothing! I wrote to REACH (Retired Executives Action Clearing House) and they got me this job overseeing the building work for the Bow project. It is thoroughly interesting and worthwhile."

This is a typical case history of a retired executive who has found the proverbial new lease of life by plunging himself into work after work. The story of Mr Moore and others who have found post-retirement use for their skills is told in a new book* which lists the voluntary groups which would probably welcome offers of help as well as established enterprise agencies and opportunities for voluntary work overseas.

Some people facing retirement may not want to work without being paid for either psychological or economic reasons. Stephen O'Brien of Business in the Community believes that real commitment to a project only comes with payment. In this field there is Success after Sixty, a non-profit-making jobs agency and EXACT, Executives in Action, a self-help organization begun by the Rotary movement, which encourages people to become self-employed. Local enterprise agencies under the umbrella of Business in the Community often use executives to advise small businesses. Retired executives are particularly in demand for fund-raising projects. "It has never been popular," admits Mr Peter Burns, the managing director of charity consultants Public Voice Communications. "Volunteers used to be inveigled into doing it. Now it is left to the professionals – those people who have come in from industry and commerce." One survey of bank managers found that those who took on no other work when they retired usually died within 18 months. So by volunteering to help others the retired are helping themselves just as much.

Work After Work by Judy Kirby. (Quiller Press £2.95.)

هكذا من الأصل

New suitor for Border Breweries

The behind-the-scenes battle for control of Border Breweries of Wrexham took another extraordinary twist yesterday when it emerged that there is yet another potential bidder, bringing the number of known suitors to three. Observers believe that there could be yet more of them.

It is understood that the latest company to have opened takeover talks with Border is Stoke on Trent based brewery, Greenall Whitley. It joins Forshaws Burtonwood Brewery of Warrington, which already has a £9.4m bid on the table and Marston Thompson & Evershed of Burton on Trent, which recently emerged as an 8.2 per cent shareholder and has put as yet undisclosed bid terms to the board for consideration.

Border's directors announced yesterday that talks which might lead to a recommended offer were at an advanced stage

Border's share price last night rose 12p to 240p.

Restaurant group sees profits rise

Kennedy Brookes, the London restaurants group which runs such names as Mario and Franco, Geneieve and now Wheelers, yesterday announced pretax profits of £886,000 for the year to last October, compared with £565,000 the year before. Sales were £3m higher at £12.4m.

The figures include only seven days' contribution from the Wheelers chain of fish restaurants.

However, the divident has to be spread out to embrace the former Wheelers shareholders who are now on the Kennedy list, so the final payment is rising by only 0.175p to 0.875p a share, making a total of 1.4p.

With Wheelers fully intergrated into the group, the company expect sales in the current year to grow to £22m.

Michael Golder, the chairman, notes that investment for further growth is not likely to be fully reflected in profits until 1984-5.

Cotts group up 30% in first half

Mitchell Cotts, the overseas engineer and transport group whose main interests are in South Africa and Australia, reported a 30 per cent jump in first-half profits yesterday.

The group reported pretax profits of £3.45m, on a turnover down from £206m to £189m, for the six months to the end of last December, against £2.6m last time.

Mr Philip Dunkley, chairman, said he was more confident that Cotts would top last years £7.38m, itself £2m lower than the previous year.

Cotts is cutting its 5,000-acre Ugandan tea estates into a managable size. In the two and a half years it has been allowed to return to the country, the group has trimmed about a quarter of the trees

With its British engineering side back into profits and a useful contribution coming from the group's chemical division in Yorkshire, the group will pay less British tax

Bairstow in £1.9m takeover

Bairstow Eves, the first firm of estate agents to get a public quote, yesterday announced that it had bought a firm of insurance brokers for £1.9m.

The acquisition of Peter Rainbow & Associates is to provide mortgages for the houses it sells through Taylors, the chain of estate agents it has just bought in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire.

Yesterday Mr John Bairstow, chairman of the Essex-based estate agents, said: "We've always provided mortgages through our own mortagae and finance department. We expanded recently into this new area but decided that it was not practical to send people down to our Brentwood headquarters".

Bairstow is paying Mr Peter Rainbow, the broker's chairman and chief executive, with Bairstow shares. He will stay on with the business and has warranted profits of at least £900,000 for the three years up to March 1987.

Ziff digs in despite Harris coup

Mr Arnold Ziff, the chairman of the family-controlled Stylo shoe business, yesterday indicated that he intended to fight a drawn-out battle against the unwanted £35m bid from Harris Queensway and was unlikely to talk to the furniture and carpet group.

Mr Ziff's rebuff to Mr Phil Harris, Harris's chairman, came despite confirmation that Harris, had received acceptances for more than 50 per cent of the shares by the first closing date on Wednesday.

Yesterday Lloyds Bank International, Stylo's merchant bank, said: "We had a short meeting with Mr Ziff this morning and decided we see no point in talking (with Harris). The figure that matters is that Mr Harris has got only 30 per cent of the votes."

The Ziff family has control of Stylo through its ownership of unlisted management shares which have more voting rights than the ordinary shares.



RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Assoc Energy 5p Ord (155a)	75
Brunt Inv £1 Ord (a)	148
CML Microsystems (130*a)	233+2
Datasery Inc Com Stk $0 05	[illegible]
Denman's Electrical 25p Ord (162A)	175
Dewey Warren Hldgs 10p Ord (a)	115+2
Gibbs Mew 25p Ord (240a)	190
Grosvenor Square 10p Ord (91a)	[illegible]
Henara 10p Ord (95)	95
Kent I 5p Ord (35a)	40
Morgan Communications 5p Ord (60a)	75
Newbury Electronics 5p Ord (110a)	185+2
Radio Clyde 25p Ord NV (60a)	70
Sangers Photographics 10p Ord (23a)	25
Synergals 10p Ord (100a)	84
Unihard 25p Ord (103a)	110
Valin Pollen Int 5p Ord (110a)	165
Welpac 10p Ord (10a)	17+2
XYLLYX 10p Ord (50a)	90+2

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities. * by tender.

BRITISH FUNDS

1983/84 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int only Yield	Gross Red Yield
SHORTS								
104¾	100	Exch	14%	1984	100	..	13.866	9.105
98	92¾	Exch	3%	1984	98	..	3.049	8.667
102¾	100⅝	Treas	12%	1984	101½ ●	..	11.823	9.167
107	104¾	Treas	15%	1985	105¾		14.269	9.302
107	101	Exch Cv	12%	1985	102		11.714	9.508
[illegible]								

MEDIUMS [illegible]

LONGS [illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

[illegible]

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[illegible]

DOLLAR STOCKS

[illegible]

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

[illegible]

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
169	111	Argyll Grp	169	..	6.4	3.8	19.0
495	382	Ass & Lacy	487	..	25.7	5.3	9.3
293	171	Ass Book	289	..	10.4	3.6	12.0
178	129½	Ass Brit Food	178	+4	6.9	3.9	7.9
162	102	Ass Dairies	152	+2	3.7	2.4	22.0
94	53	Ass Fisheries	99 ●	..	3.6	3.6	9.3
159	65	Ass Leisure	158	h +8	5.9n	3.7	13.8
493	136	Ass News	491	+3	14.3	3.1	22.7
124	63	Ass Paper	123	-1	6.0b	4.9	10.1
475	235	Atlantic Comp	475		1.4	0.3	24.5
120	79½	Attwoods PLC	118	-2	3.3	2.8	24.2
[illegible]							

C—E

[illegible]

F—H

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
212	144	Granada 'A'	210	+6	8.3	3.9	16.8
366	301	Grand Met PLC	343	..	13.8	4.0	12.9
86	32	Grattan PLC	72	..	..	..	27.0
636	503	Gt Univ Stores	605	+5	20.7	3.4	13.3
631	498	Do A	591	+3	20.7	3.5	13.0
168	113	Gripperrods	161 ●	..	7.0	4.4	7.3
173	104¾	Grosvenor Grp	155	+9	7.5	4.8	9.5
211	120¾	GKN	208	+2	11.4b	5.5	24.8
138	105	H A.T. Grp	114	+4	4.6b	4.1	15.3
237	136	HTV	236	..	15.7	6.7	8.4
[illegible]							

I—N

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							
197	140	Magnet & S'thns	152	..	6.0n	3.9	12.3
142	98	Man Agcy Music	137	..	12.5	9.1	10.8
230	141	Marchwiel	222 ●	+2	12.9	5.8	7.1
235	191	Marks & Spencer	228	+1	7.6	3.3	22.5
92	48	Marley PLC	89	-2	3.9	4.3	18.0
49	30	Marling Ind	47	-½	1.6	3.4	21.1
38	30	Marshall T Lox	34	..	..e	..	..
34	23	Do A	33	+1	..e	..	..
190	130	Marshalls Hfx	190 ●	..	10.0	5.3	11.0
208	133	Martin News	153	..	8.7	5.7	7.1
288	228	Martonair	271	..	12.1	4.5	14.1
174	118	Matthews B.	172	..	7.9	4.6	6.0
130	60	May & Hassell	120	..	5.9	4.9	9.0
117	53	Medminster	85	..	6.3	7.4	8.1
345	278	Menzies J.	333	+3	7.7	2.3	11.6
358	154	Metal Box	346	..	17.6	5.1	13.8
58	37¼	Metalrax	49	..	3.1b	6.4	11.9
168	103	Meyer Int	147	-1	5.6	3.8	11.8
167	120	Milletts Leis	131	..	9.9	7.6	..
59½	31½	Mitchell Cotts	57½	-1	5.2	9.0	12.8
56	20	Moben Grp	25	+1	0.4	1.4	7.1
30	16	Modern Eng	16	..	..e	..	..
165	96	Molins	138	+5	11.3	8.3	5.8
147	112	Monk A.	133	..	8.6b	6.4	5.5
9	5	Montecatini	9	..	..	..	..
91	66	More O'Ferrall	85	..	4.3	5.0	13.7
147	78	Morgan Cruc	137	..	10.2	7.4	28.4
245	135	Moss Bros	235	-2	5.8	2.5	22.0
[illegible]							

O—S

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							
132	51	Smurfit	128 ●	-1	5.3	4.2	16.8
67	30	Snia Viscosa	62	..	..	..	..
44	19	Solicitors Law	38	+2	..e	..	..
216	152	Spirax-Sarco	182	..	7.1	3.9	14.4
71	22	Staffs Potts	71	..	0.0	..	..
119	88	Stag Furniture	102	..	7.1	7.0	27.5
117	63	Stakis PLC	110 ●	..	2.9	2.6	15.2
326	183	Standard Tel	310	+2	10.7	3.5	15.4
57	32	Stanley A. G.	39	..	1.4	3.7	33.3
395	260	Steel Bros	384	..	17.1	4.5	9.0
288	145	Steetley Co	280	+2	10.0b	3.6	43.5
142	82	Steinberg	126	..	2.9b	2.3	15.8
230	27	Strong & Fisher	200	..	..	..	59.5
265	139	Sunlight Serv	225	..	10.0	4.4	12.7
305	228	Superdrug	270	..	5.0b	1.9	32.0
36	17	Sutcliffe S'man	30	..	..e	..	13.4
132	35	Suter Elec	132	+2	2.9b	2.2	..
168½	77½	Swire Pacific 'A'	151	+1	..	..	..

T—Z

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
21½	13¾	TDK	19¾	+¼	11.4	0.6	26.9
250	132	TI Group	248	..	10.7	4.3	..
203	21	TACE	195 ●	+1	4.3	2.3	12.9
90	34	TSL Therm Synd	62	+6	0.1	0.2	11.4
29	14½	TSW	29	..	1.7	5.9	11.6
25¹¹⁄₁₆	20⁹⁄₁₆	Takeda BDR	£20¾	+¼	..	..	22.0
7¾	4	Talbex Grp	6¼	..	..	..	..
472	390	Tarmac PLC	472	..	16.3	3.5	16.5
[illegible]							

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

SHIPPING

[illegible]

MINES

[illegible]

OIL

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

PLANTATIONS

[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS

[illegible]

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							
90	66	Godwin Warren	90	+3	2.0b	2.2	13.0
430	335	Merrydown Wine	415	..	7.1	1.7	17.4
147	113	Metal Bulletin	135 ●	..	9.4	7.0	11.7
775	265	Micro Focus	740	-20	..b	..	..
223	140	Microlease	223	..	2.9b	1.3	..
231	133	Miles 33	210	..	2.9	1.4	22.4
46	25	New Court Nat	41	..	1.7	4.2	16.1
31¼	22½	Owners Abroad	31¼	+½	0.7	2.3	14.0
52	8½	Parkfield Fndry	43	..	..	..	..
200	150	Pericom	198	..	2.4	1.2	31.4
155	129	Securiguard	126	..	2.5	2.0	27.2
68	48	S.W. Resources	74	+2	2.6	3.5	..

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 1	Market rates (close) March 1	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.4740-1.4885	$1.4770-1.4780	0.07-0.12c disc	0.40-0.45c disc
Montreal	$1.8470-1.8610	$1.8485-1.8495	0.08-0.18c disc	0.33-0.43c disc
Amsterdam	4.34-4.39fl	4.34½-4.35½fl	1½-½c prem	3½-3c prem
Brussels	78.80-79.60f	78.90-79.00f	22-32c disc	75-85c disc
Copenhagen	14.11-14.25k	14.13-14.14k	53-158ore disc	270-385ore disc
Dublin	1.2535-1.2635p	1.2545-1.2555p	25-38p disc	98-113p disc
Frankfurt	3.84¾-3.88¾m	3.85¾-3.86¾m	1½-½pf prem	3½-2½pf prem
Lisbon	192.75-195.25e	193.50-194.00e	265-570c disc	715-1395c disc
Madrid	221.00-223.00p	221.30-221.50p	180-180c disc	500-540c disc
Milan	2396-2415lr	2397-2399lr	15-17lr disc	51-53lr disc
Oslo	11.09-11.19k	11.10¾-11.11¾k	326-424ore disc	1071-1178ore disc
Paris	11.85-11.96f	11.86½-11.87½f	5½-6½c disc	21-23c disc
Stockholm	11.49-11.59k	11.50-11.51k	113-213ore disc	437-554ore disc
Tokyo	344-347y	344½-345½y	0.80-0.68y prem	2.30-2.14y prem
Vienna	27.12-27.37sch	27.15-27.20sch	8-6gro prem	21-17gro prem
Zurich	3.20½-3.24f	3.21-3.22f	1½-1¼c prem	4½-4c disc

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 82.9 down 0.4.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 9%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 9¼ Low 7

Week Fixed: 9½-9

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	9	2 months	8²⁹⁄₃₂
3 months	8¹⁵⁄₁₆	3 months	8²⁹⁄₃₂

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	9-8³¹⁄₃₂	1 month	9⅜
2 months	8¹⁵⁄₁₆-8²⁹⁄₃₂	2 months	9⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	8⅞-8²⁷⁄₃₂	3 months	9¼
6 months	8²⁷⁄₃₂-8²⁵⁄₃₂	6 months	8¹⁵⁄₁₆

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9¾-9½	7 months	9¾-9½
2 months	9¾-9½	8 months	9¾-9½
3 months	9¾-9½	9 months	9¾-9½
4 months	9¾-9½	10 months	9¾-9½
5 months	9¾-9½	11 months	9¾-9½
6 months	9¾-9½	12 months	9¾-9½

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	9⁷⁄₃₂-9⁵⁄₃₂	6 months	9⁷⁄₃₂-9⁵⁄₃₂
3 months	9⁷⁄₃₂-9⁵⁄₃₂	12 months	9⅛-9³⁄₃₂

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	9¼	3 months	9¼
7 days	9¼	6 months	9¼
1 month	9³⁄₁₆	1 year	9½

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 9¼ Close 7

1 week	9⁵⁄₁₆-9³⁄₁₆	6 months	9⁵⁄₁₆-9³⁄₁₆
1 month	9¼-9³⁄₁₆	9 months	9⁵⁄₁₆-9³⁄₁₆
3 months	9⁵⁄₁₆-9³⁄₁₆	12 months	9⁵⁄₁₆-9³⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 9⁵⁄₁₆ 6 months 9⁵⁄₁₆

Finance House Base Rate 9½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.5633-1.5785
Bahrein	0.5573-0.5605
Finland	8.34-8.38
Greece	148.80-150.80
Hongkong	11.5265-11.5765
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4325-0.4355
Malaysia	3.4470-3.4770
Mexico	245-270
New Zealand	2.2180-2.2380
Saudi Arabia	5.1915-5.2215
Singpore	3.1330-3.1630
South Africa	1.7770-1.7920

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.1770-1.1780
+ Canada	1.2518-1.2519
Netherlands	2.9465-2.9485
Belgium	53.44-53.49
Denmark	9.5775-9.5875
West Germany	2.6110-2.6120
Portugal	130-132
Spain	149.60-150.00
Italy	1623.00-1625.00
Norway	7.5150-7.5250
France	8.03-8.0350
Sweden	7.78-7.79
Japan	233.40-233.50
Austria	18.38-18.42
Switzerland	2.1750-2.1765

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.7990-0.7993

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 8¾-9½; seven days, 9½-9¼; one month, 9¹³⁄₁₆-9¹¹⁄₁₆; three months, 10¹⁄₁₆-10⁵⁄₁₆; six months, 10⅝-10½.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $395.25 (an ounce); pm, $392.75 close, $393-393.50 (£266-266.50).

Krugerrand* (per coin): $405-406.50 (£274-275).

Sovereigns* (new): $92-93 (£62.25-63).

* Excludes VAT

FOOTBALL: RESUSCITATION AT CLUB LEVEL AND SINKING FEELING AT NATIONAL LEVEL

New life enters the Valley and spring is back in Derby's step

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The ability of English clubs to avoid the ultimate defeat continues to be remarkable. As Charlton Athletic, £1.2m down and deep into injury time, waited yesterday for the final whistle to echo around the Valley, they heard instead that their chairman, Mark Hulyer, had resigned to allow a consortium to take over and safeguard their immediate future.

Nor was that the only rescue operation to be raised. Derby County, estimated to be some £1.5m in debt, were expecting their own epitaph to be published in 10 days but it is likely to be postponed by the arrival of Robert Maxwell. The millionaire accepted "in principle" their invitation to lead the reconstruction of their organization.

On a day whose happenings were better fitted to the business section than the sports pages, it was also appropriate that Mike Lewis, appointed as Reading's financial director, chose to criticize the way clubs are run. "only three or four can look


Maxwell: rescue operation

their bank managers in the eye", he said. "Most directors are part-timers who pop in once a week to sign cheques".

Hulyer would clearly dispute his claim. After squeezing "two months' work into less than a day", he took his decision at five o'clock in the afternoon on the advice of his business associate, Leslie Wise. "I told him he had no option". Wise said, "but he is happy because his sole concern was for Charlton's future".

The consortium, backed by the Sunley Property and Building Company, later reached agreement with the Football League over financial guarantees. Graham Kelly, the League's secretary, confirmed: "Its solicitors has indicated that it will be in a position to meet all our terms and conditions before the weekend". Charlton's players will be relieved to hear that.

So uncertain was their position that their time of departure to Blackburn, where they are to play tomorrow, had been put back three hours to 4 pm today. They trained as usual, not at the Valley but at Eltham, on a ground owned by their former chairman, Michael Gliksten.

Known to be a supporter of the consortium, Gliksten is still owed £300,000 by the club. He flew back from his farm in Sydney to hear that Hulyer, who held the lease on Charlton's ground, had dropped his appeal against the winding-up petition. It was to be heard in the High Court this morning.

The Inland Revenue's case against Derby, whose PAYE arrears amount to £129,000, was set for March 12 but that meeting may not take place. A club statement said that "the details of the deal are being finalized urgently and will be put to the court for approval at the earliest opportunity".

If it is accepted, Maxwell will sever his connexions with Oxford United and become Derby's chairman. Stuart Webb, the chief executive, will be the managing director and three others, Kirkland, Fern and Hart, who are all making "substantial financial contributions to the package", will remain on the board as directors.

Derby's negotiations with a multinational company based in Hongkong, who were believed to be willing to invest £1.2m, broke down recently. Maxwell said: "I feel that Derby ought to remain in British hands. I'm happy to be a part of this operation, particularly as the club has such an illustrious tradition and is about to celebrate its centenary".

There may be a more significant reason for this change of allegiance. In his chairman's report, published this morning, Maxwell states: "If, after 30 years, the Oxford City Council continues to block and prevaricate, the club will close down either at the end of this season or at the latest by the end of the next".

The irony is that Oxford, the third division leaders, are as likely to climb up to the second division as Derby, who are six points adrift in twentieth place, are to fall down to the third. Maxwell, frustrated in his attempt to merge Oxford and Reading as well as to buy Manchester United, may at least find himself back in the FA Cup.

Derby are at Plymouth Argyle in the quarter-final round on March 10. They have won the trophy only once in their history, by the clear margin of 4-1 in 1946. Their victims were, of all people, Charlton, and the pair needed extra time to sort out their differences that day as well.

Hoddle submerged again as England drift on

By David Miller

It would be misleading to place the responsibility for England's slightly embarrassing inferiority against effervescent yet erratic France at the feet of Glenn Hoddle. Yet the evidence is growing uncomfortably more plain that one of our most gifted players cannot guarantee to deliver even half the parcel.

The only consolation of the match was that England's wretched so-called supporters will not be there to disfigure the European Championship finals in France. There is no answer to their wanton aggressiveness, other than the random, nasty "correction" of police batons and prisons, or complicated social legislation which restricts the liberty of other citizens.

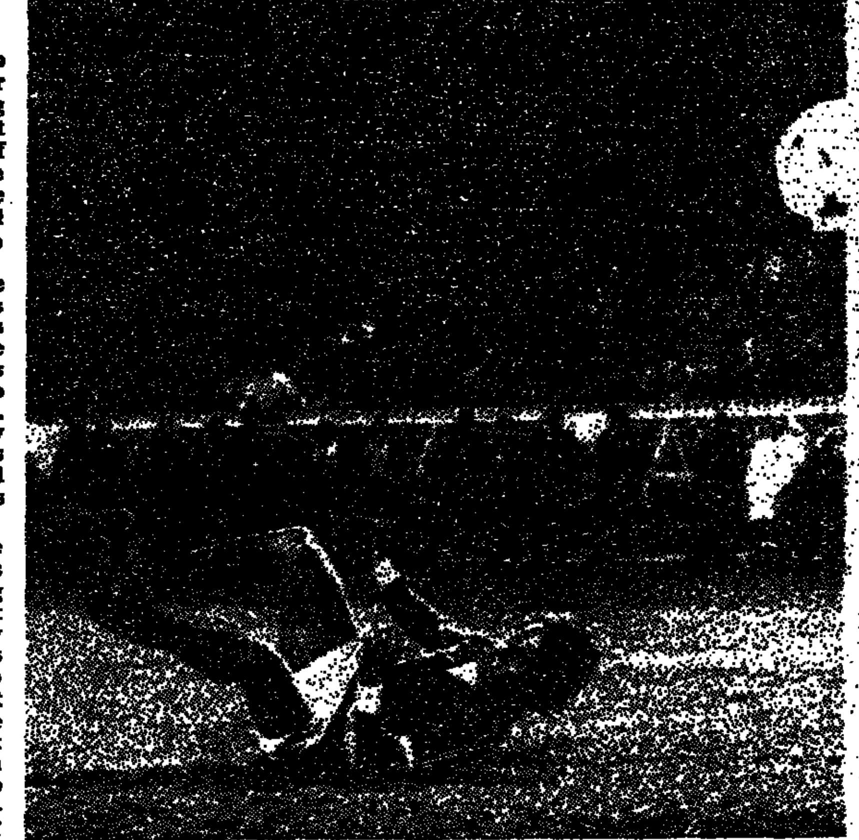
Hoddle's tepid performance in a two-goal defeat provides just one of the worrying reservations which any realist must now have about Bobby Robson being sure of taking his team to the Mexico World Cup finals. Allowing for the fact that his team was experimental, the score might have been five or six without Shilton and Bryan Robson. It is puzzling that Bob Wilson, himself an ex-professional, could say on BBC television that England were technically equal to the French.

The manager, who tries hard not to be over-subjective about the players upon whom his reputation rests, was moved to admit "we were a little bit overrun towards the end". It makes that admission more disturbing for the future if you initially concede that part of France's superiority stemmed not from any unanswerable flair but from the persistently average and unimaginative opposition that they were encountering.

Platini, for all his two goals, did not look a match-winner for most of the first half, even though it was clear that France had six outstanding ball players and were being kept in check several times only by Bryan Robson's spine-rattling tackles.

Hoddle, it must be emphasised, was the fifth most capped player (19) in the England team. Gone is the time when his vulnerable skills may be regarded indulgently as something yet to develop fully. He is 26. He should have been on one of the leaders, morally if not physically, and he was not.

It can be argued that the system was not right for his style, that he needs three attacking players, not two, to exploit his creative touch and eye. But the great player, at 26, rises above adversity, especially in a friendly. France are hardly the most severe physical opposition, and as the manager subsequently remarked, Hoddle had no special marker.


Down and in: Platini, back on home soil, watches his header elude Shilton to give France the lead.

He can, Robson continued warily on the way home, be lethal, but he must be doing it consistently in league and international football. "If we're going to play him loose (in midfield), then he has got to hit shots, and get in among the strikers", he said. The inadequacy on the night of Stein – sadly shown on his first appearance to be a dinghy among keel-boats – and the enterprising but lightweight Walsh was emphasized by the lack of midfield support.

There can be no point in Bobby Robson making the concession to Hoddle of having other more robust midfield men if the team does not in return get the benefit of Hoddle's thrust in attack. Bryan Robson was more conspicuous in both penalty areas than Hoddle was in either.

Yet the manager's inner disquiet must be deepened by the problem elsewhere, especially among the back four. Five years ago in the under-21 treaam Sansom seemed a gilded gift for the future, but he has declined in his maturity. Duxbury, too, looked less of a player under pressure than he had previously seemed, and Roberts, in the middle, was what any realistic assessor knows him to be, a robust scythe, lacking subtlety. An international team must have one of its central defenders with some attacking science.

When, over the past four or five years, England have had the occasional unexpected bad result – their last defeat away was in Norway in 1981 – there was usually the possibility of rationalising: a different player here or there, a shift in emphasis, and the team could recover. It is hard to see now where Bobby Robson will find the nucleus of a settled side, let alone a complete team.

He has intermittently lost Francis, Coppell, Mabbutt, Cowans and Devonshire through injury, forfeiting a possible development of the last three, and particularly the left-side ability of the last two, without which no team prospers. Rix and Armstrong are the only genuine left-sided alternatives. Robson says he knows after Wednesday what his best team would be against Ireland on April 4 and that he must play the best available team in all competitive matches. My opinion would be that the front six should be Lee or Williams, Mabbutt, Robson and Rix with Woodcock and Barnes up front, though I suspect Robson would prefer the ageing Mariner.

It is some reassurance that the manager should say yesterday that further experiment "will be minute", yet this conflicts with what he was saying on Tuesday: that he had not yet run out of experimental time for another half dozen matches, even though he has less than half a club manager's league season before the World Cup finals. In that time he has to succeed in the qualifying competition.

The time to blood the young men has come and gone. Now is too late. This means that from now to 1986 England are in exactly the same position as with Greenwood and before him Revie: attempting to qualify for the World Cup with a compromise team that has come together too late after devoting too much time to the European Championship instead of early building.

It is worth recalling that Sir Alf Ramsey, though he may have lost his first match in Paris rather more heavily than Robson, made virtually only three changes to his defensive six in the next three years: Cohen for Armfield, Stiles for Milne, and Jack Charlton for Norman, alongside Banks, Wilson and Moore. The real lesson of the Parc des Princes is that the present manager is uncomfortably short of true international players. Not even the role of his most indispensable player, Robson, is sure at present.

The age of England's supremacy

England Under-16 4
France Under-16..................0

Those naive enough to believe that English footballers improve with age will take great heart from the performance of the under-16 team at Vicarage Road last night.

So dominant were the English that Pageau had no time to rest in the French goal. Within three minutes England were in the lead. Adams's 30 yard shot had been fended away by the French goalkeeper, and then Beresford's corner was met by Anderson at the far post.

By half-time, Adams had put England 2-0 up after Pageau had desperately parried Beresford's free-kick. After the break, however, the French tried hard to muster their forces and Digby had to cover fierce shots. England finished supremely well with goals by Priest from Anderson's flick on, and Kilner, whose sharp cross was deflected by Villa into his own net.

ENGLAND: F. Digby (Manchester United); S. Potts (West Ham United), A. Crane (Ipswich Town), K. Keen (West Ham United), A. Adams (Arsenal), D Anderson (Coventry City), D. Gordon (Norwich City), P. Priest (Chelsea), D. Beckford (Manchester City), J. Beresford (Manchester City), A. Kilner (Burnley).

FRANCE: M. Pageau (Angers); E. Villa (Auxerre), C. Gaftier (Olympique de Marseilles), F. Darras (Auxerre), A Roche (Girondis de Bordeaux), D. Gauge (Olympique Lyonnais), J-M. Lebelof (Nantes), S. Mazzolini (Auxerre) (sub: F. Silvestre, Souchoux), T. Gors (Saint Etienne), B. Brun (Cannes), P. Haon (Saint Etienne).

Referee: M. Van Swieten (Netherlands).

League attitude causing despair

By Paul Newman

The Alliance Premier League are to ask the Football League to reconsider their decision not to replace clubs who go out of business. Graham Kelly, the League secretary, said earlier this week that if Charlton Athletic left the League their place in the second division would be filled by the promotion of an additional club from the third division, which would in turn take an extra club from the fourth. The vacancy in the fourth would not be filled.

A League spokesman confirmed yesterday: "Although we obviously don't want clubs to go out of business, this does enable us to move towards our objective of a smaller League. Non-League clubs will continue to have a chance of getting into the League through the annual reelection procedure, but there is no chance we will rethink our position on the non-replacement of clubs lost through natural wastage".

The Alliance believe, however, that this policy may not be widely supported by the League clubs themselves, especially in the fourth division. The loss of one member would mean that the remaining 23 fourth division clubs would each lose two fixtures (and the subsequent revenue) at a time when many are in financial difficulties.

The League's attitude is causing despair throughout the non-League game. The Alliance was formed five seasons ago, with the support of the Football League, in order to provide one universally accepted candidate for election to the League each year. Not one club has since been elected, however, and it is now feared that if the League start losing members through "natural wastage" they will close ranks even further.

This is weakening the whole "pyramid" structure of senior non-League football, whereby clubs can progress through promotion from one league to another. Opponents of the system claim that the Alliance's failure to send clubs into the League is evidence that "the pyramid isn't working".

They also point to the facts that last season no Isthmian League club took up the option of promotion to the Alliance League and that the Northern Premier League have failed to reach agreement on a regular promotion and relegation link with their two proposed "feeders", the North West Counties and Northern Counties East leagues.

The expansion plans of the Isthmian and Eastern Counties leagues have also caused disagreements within the pyramid recently and trouble is now brewing in the Midlands, where there is a widespread belief that the area should have its own league for its best clubs outside the Alliance.

The Central Midlands League are now planning to form a new division composed of leading Midlands clubs unhappy with the present structure. Their scheme, which would be contrary to all current planning for the development of the pyramid, has attracted particular interest from clubs formerly in the Midland League, which merged two years ago with the Yorkshire League to form the Northern Counties East League. Many are unhappy at having to travel long distances to matches frequently watched by fewer than 100 people.

Because of lack of time – many leagues set dates in December and January, after which clubs who resign have to pay heavy fines – the Central Midlands League

Belgians in bribery row resign

Liege (AFP), Belgium's football scandal deepened yesterday with the resignation of the Standard Liege manager and president following Wednesday's revelation by the former Standard player, Eric Gerets, that the club won the league title two years ago by bribing their opponents.

The manager, Raymond Goethals, who also took Standard to their eighth league championship triumph last season, and the club president Roger Petit, resigned at a special meeting on Wednesday night.

Gerets the captain of the Belgium national side, had been called to give evidence before an inquiry into the existence of slush funds in the Belgian league. The former international Joseph Jurion, and the president of the poweful Antwerp club, Eddy Wauters were already under arrest on fraud charges.

During a 14-hour hearing Gerets admitted that bribes had been used to arrange the outcome of the match between Standard Liege and


Gerets: suspended

Waterschei at the end of the 1981-82 season, a fixture which had been crucial to Standard's hopes, of winning the title.

Gerets, who has since been transferred to AC Milan in Italy said he was asked by the president of his club to offer some $7,000 to Waterschei to throw the match.

● The Scottish first division game between Ayr United and Partick Thistle tomorrow has been postponed. Partick have seven players down with influenza, four injured and two suspended. The Scottish League postponed the game after medical certificates were provided.

Currie by the sea

Tony Currie, the former England midfield player, yesterday signed for the fourth division club Torquay. He will play against Northampton tomorrow. Currie, aged 34, who used to be with Sheffield United, Leeds and Queen's Park Rangers, has been playing with the non-League side Chesham.

Burnley yesterday transferred Malcolm Waldron, a defender, to Portsmouth for around £60,000. He had been at Burnley for only five months after being bought from Southampton for £85,000.

Britol City today signed Trevor Morgan, a Bournemouth forward, for a fee of about £10,000. Morgan, Morgan, Bournemouth's leading scorer so far this season with 15 goals, is expected to play at York tomorrow.

Middlesbrough have failed to raise the £30,000 down-payment on a proposed £60,000 transfer of the Manchester United reserve goalkeeper, Stephen Pears. Pears could return to Old Trafford today after an extended loan to stand by for Manchester United's European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final against Barcelona.

A proposal for Southampton and Portsmouth to share a new stadium has been suggested by John Deacon, the Portsmouth chairman. Mr Deacon, who is a Southampton councillor, says that the new luxury ground should be midway between the two cities and he believes that, with the completion of the M27, it would be within easy reach of supporters of both teams.

RUGBY UNION

Greenwood seeking creative approach

From David Hands
Rugby Correspondent
Paris

Any injury problems which may have worried England this week vanished yesterday after a thorough workout at the Racing Club de France ground at La Boulie, just outside Paris. Winterbottom and the replacement flanker, Cooke, played a full part in training for tomorrow's match with France at Parc des Princes.

In that a huge bonfire was smouldering by their training ground, England might have be said to have laid a smokescreen over their endeavours, but Richard Greenwood, their coach, was quite clearcut. "Against Ireland we ended with zero after creating four or five try-scoring chances. I would like to be similarly creative against France and reap the reward."

Greenwood hopes to visit Parc des Princes today to get a look at the ground he has not seen at first hand. The grass, cropped short for the footballers, will favour a running French game, although Greenwood pointed out that his side, too, enjoys playing on top of the ground.

He was unhappy with the lineout work against Ireland and less than enchanted about it in training. Some of the reasons for an indifferent performance two weeks ago have been diagnosed; England will train this morning hoping to have found the cure. If Colclough's showing for Wasps against Orrell is any guide, they may be close to it.

"We will kick where appropriate but not as a dominant theme," Greenwood said. "There is a very positive and robust aspect to French play and if you are susceptible to it you may as well not turn up. We have to be positive and robust, too."

● Iain Paxton (knee injury) and Andy Irvine (bruised back) have been passed fit for Scotland's match against Ireland in Dublin tomorrow.

Laughter at the lineouts

By Gerald Davies

Quite often it is the violent aspects of the game, the harsh words and aggressive exchanges at forward, that get the banner headlines. It is good to know, just to restore our confidence and sense of balance, that the game, even at its highest level, still has its moments of comedy, even when the tension is at its sharpest.

I do not suppose that John Perkins, of Wales, or Moss Keane, of Ireland, would immediately conjure an image of tender sympathetic affection or back-slapping bonhomie. Well, not on the field, at any rate, when the battle, as it were, is joined.

They opposed each other recently in the front of the lineout at Lnasdowne Road. The match was well under way. Norster had the pickings in the middle and Moriarty and Butler combined to take their share at the back. Perkins and Keane were largely ignored.

At one such lineout, Perkins stood, legs astride, slightly hunched, hands on bent knees, ready to spring. Keane, on the other side, sleeves rolled to the elbow, affected a similar stance with eyes staring intently at the thrower-in. Not built exactly as greyhounds in the slips, they nonetheless waited, each attempting to impress of bluff the other, when Perkins relaxed his position, turned to Keane, smiled, and said: "I don't know why we're going through this rigmarole, Moss. We know they're not going to throw us the ball."

When Duggan was floored, by accident or design, in Parc des Princes recently, and after the trainer had completed his ministrations, Clive Norling, the referee, asked him the score – the referee's rule-of-thumb questin to find out whether the man is concussed or not. Duggan answered with a grin and rubbing his head: "Well, referee, if I didn't know before, I certainly know now."

Violence on the field cannot be condoned, but clearly, in a game of such rough and tumble, the ingredients are already there for acts of aggression, intentional or otherwise. Norling acknowledges that there are differences.

"Players quite often react instinctively and their actions can wrongly be interpreted as acts of violence," he says.

Rosslyn Park answer critics

Rosslyn Park, criticized by Northampton for failing in their duties to rugby by not suspending Paul Curtis, responded on Wednesday night with a statement saying they do not accept the criticism.

Northampton have cancelled their scheduled home match with Park on March 10 after an incident in which their scrum half, Steve Worrall, had his jaw broken.

The statement said: "Included in the letter ... was the suggestion that Rosslyn Park's executive committee had abrogated their responsibility to rugby football by not suspending Paul Curtis. While accepting the cancellation the committee does not accept criticism levelled against it, in that an admonishment is a most serious punishment for the unfortunate able collision which resulted in Worrall's injury."

Park secretary David Henderson said yesterday: "I don't think Northampton realise how seriously we have disciplined Curtis."

Schools rugby, page 32

RUGBY LEAGUE

Unsettled Solal heads home

Patrick Solal, Hull's French international right wing, is to return home after completing only one season of his three-year contract with the league champions. The Hull chairman, Roy Waudby, said that Solal had been unable to settle down in Britain.

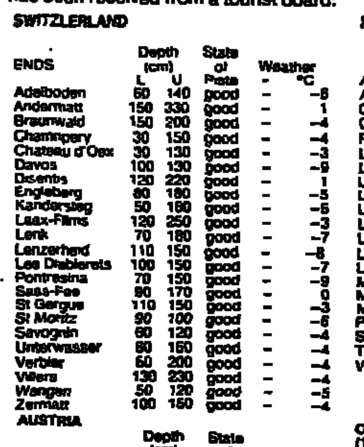
"Although we have tried to help him he hasn't been able to find a job outside rugby. We have agreed to cancel his contract, from the end of this season."

The brewers McEwan Younger yesterday enlarged their sponsorship of the game by announcing a £75,000 deal with St Helens (Keith Macklin writes).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to Resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Arosa	125	180	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	+2
Good skiing off piste							
Courmayeur	200	300	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	-2
New snow on good base							
Grindelwald	30	120	Good	Poor	Good	Sun	-4
Lower south slopes icy							
Klosters	100	180	Good	Heavy	Fair	Sun	-3
Skiing good above 2000m							
La Plagne	165	300	Good	Heavy	Fair	Sun	0C
Some runs becoming worn							
Mürren	140	220	Good	Varied	Good	Fair	-3
Hard snow on some runs							
St Anton	100	330	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	+5
Spring snow on slopes							
Sauze D'Oulx	40	90	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-2
Sauze d'Oulx							
Good skiing on most runs							
Seefeld	90	170	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine	+1
Slush on lower slopes							
Soldeu, Andorra	55	150	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-5
Powder on hard base							
Isola 2000	135	155	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-4
Heavy snow and high winds							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:



SWITZLERLAND

ENDS	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Adelboden	60	140	good	-	-6
Andermatt	150	330	good	-	1
Braunwald	150	200	good	-	-4
Champery	30	150	good	-	-4
Chateau d'Oex	30	130	good	-	-3
Davos	100	130	good	-	-9
Disentis	120	220	good	-	1
Engleberg	80	180	good	-	-5
Kandersteg	50	180	good	-	-5
Laax-Flims	120	250	good	-	-3
Lenk	70	180	good	-	-7
Lenzerheid	110	150	good	-	-8
Les Diablerets	100	150	good	-	-7
Pontresina	70	150	good	-	-9
Saas-Fee	80	170	good	-	0
St Gergue	110	150	good	-	-3
St Moritz	90	100	good	-	-6
Savognin	60	120	good	-	-4
Unterwasser	80	150	good	-	-4
Verbier	60	200	good	-	-4
Villers	130	230	good	-	-4
Wangen	50	120	good	-	-5
Zermatt	100	150	good	-	-4

AUSTRIA

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Berchtesgaden	30	-	Crust	-	-5
Garmisch	50	-	Old	-	-5
Mittenwald	54	-	Old	-	-4
Oberjoch	140	-	Pwdr	-	-5
Oberstaufen	54	-	Pwdr	-	-4
Oberstdorf	130	-	Old	-	-6

FRANCE

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Avoriaz	80	300	-	-	-
Alpe d' Huez	190	400	-	-	-
Chamonix	110	320	-	-	-
Courchevel	170	230	-	-	-
Flaine	180	350	-	-	-
La Clusaz	155	240	-	-	-
La Daille	-	-	-	-	-
La Plagne	163	300	-	-	-
Le Corbier	150	300	-	-	-
Les Arcs	140	205	-	-	-
Les Contamines	120	220	-	-	-
Les Duex Alpes	120	350	-	-	-
Les Gets	120	230	-	-	
Les Menuires	150	250	-	-	
Megèv	170	210	-	-	
Meribel	145	230	-	-	
Morzine	120	300	-	-	
Pr-Loup	110	130	-	-	
St. Gervais	50	210	-	-	
Tignes	180	315	-	-	
Val d'Isère	122	240	-	-	

SKIING

OBERHOF, East Germany: World Cup biathlon (13 miles): 1, Y Kashkarov (USSR), 1hr 5min 26.5sec. (1 penalty minute); 2, F P Roesch (EG), 1:05:44 (1); 3, Vasilyev (USSR), 1:06:25.8 (2); 4, Fisher (WG), 1:07:01.6 (2); 5, Goethel (EG), 1:07:43.8 (2); 6, Wick (EG), 1:07:49.6 (3). Standing after four events: 1, Roesch (EG), 95pts; 2, Y Mougel (Fr), 94; 3, Angerer (WG), 90; 4 equal, Kvalfoss (Nor), Fischer (WG) 89; 6, Lirhus (Nor), 88.

IN BRIEF

Rebels upset by 'ghosts'

Yorkshire's rebel members are trying to adjourn tomorrow's annual meeting in Sheffield. They claim that "the ghosts" of the general committee forced to resign in January over the Geoff Boycott affair cannot be responsible for drawing up the agenda for the meeting.

The new committee could include Boycott himself, two other former captains, Brian Close and Ronnie Burnet, and Fred Trueman, who is still convinced that Boycott should not be given a new contract. The Yorkshire Members 1984 Group, who have led the campaign to have the 43-year-old former England opener reinstated, want the meeting to be adjourned and reconvened at a later date once the new committee has been named. Their main concern is that the old committee have put forward nominations for honorary treasurer and a co-opted member.

ATHLETICS: Only four members of the United States team that lost to Great Britain in an indoor meeting at Cosford last year, are included in the team that pays a return visit on March 10.

They are Tonie Campbell, John Dupuis and James Mays, all winners at Cosford last year, and Bill Krohn. Havey Glance, who runs in the 60 metres was a 1976 gold medalist in the 4x100 metre relay.

TEAM: 60 metres: H Glance and J Gold. 200m: E Tabron, T Wright. 400m: A Darden, A Babers. 800m J Mays, J McIntosh. Mile: To be selected. S Lacy, B Bickford. 3,000m W Krohn, B Diemer. 60m hurdles: A Campbell, M Stewart. 4x400m relay: A Darden, A Babers, S Redwine, S Davis. High jump: D Lewis, P Piwinski. Pole Vault: R Phillips, T Bright. Long jump: R Waynes, S Holmes. Triple jump: P Jordan, A Joyner. Shot put: J Dupuis, H Horowitz.

ROWING

Emmanuel closing in

By a Special Correspondent

Downing had a grandstand view of the action behind as they rode over at the top of the Cambridge Lents on the second day. The deposed head boat, Trinity Hall, were halted yet again on Ditton Corner by Emmanuel who closed from one length at Grassy and so today go for the headship.

Lady Margaret too went down, but survived to the Pike and Eel and only after Clare had overlapped by nearly a canvas for at least two strokes.

Churchill rode over comfortably at the top of the women's division but, behind, Jesus jumped back into possible contention by overbumping Girton after Girton broke a gate. Jesus thus overtook Clare.

Men

DIVISION I: Emmanuel b Trinity Hall; Clare LMBC: Caius b Fitzwilliam; Queens' b Peterhouse.

DIVISION II: St Catharine's b LMBC II; Christ's II b Corpus Christi; Clare II b Trinity Hall II; 1st and 3rd Trinigy II b Magdalene II; Downing II b Queens II; Pembroke II b Selwyn II.

DIVISION III: Pembroke II b LMBC III; Fitzwilliam II b Churchill II; LMBC IV b Robinson; Girton b Churchill III; Magdalene III b Christ's III.

DIVISION IV: LMBC V b St Catharine's III; Downing III b Sidney Sussex III; King's II ob Caius III; Fitzwilliam III b Jesus IV; Pembroke III ob Selwyn III, Claire IV b 1st and 3rd Trinity IV.

DIVISON V: Emmanuel III b Churchill IV; Clare V b Wolfson; Girton II b Magdalene IV; 1st and 3rd Trinity b Trinity Hall IV; Downing IV ob Emmanuel IV; Downing V b Downing VI.

Women

DIVISON I: Clare b New Hall; Jesus ob Girtond Sidney Sussex b Selwyn; Emmanuel b Christ's; Fitzwilliam b 1st and 3rd Trinity; St Catharine's I b Queen's.

DIVISION II: St Catharine's b Clare II; LMBC b CMABC: Downing b New Hall II; CCAT b Robinson; Churchill II b Corpus Christie; Jesus II b Christ's II; LMBC II b St Catrine's II.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL
FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	L	Pts
Solent Stars	35	31	4	62
Crystal Palace	35	25	10	50
Warrington	34	23	11	46
Bracknell	35	22	13	44
Sunderland	34	21	13	42
Leicester	34	21	13	41
Birmingham	34	16	18	32
Manchester	34	16	18	32
Brighton	35	16	19	32
Kingston	32	13	19	26
Hemel Hempstead	35	12	23	24
Doncaster	34	5	29	10
Bolton	33	1	32	2

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Detroit Pistons 137, Washington Bullets 106; Seattle Supersonics 124, Dallas Mavericks 124 (2 ot); Philadelphia 76-ers 103, Utah Jazz 97; San Diego Clippers 102, Phoenix Suns 95; New York Knicks 102, Boston Celtics 98; New Jersey Nets 102, Los Angeles Lakers 92; Milwaukee Bucks 112, Chicago Bulls 83.

EUROPEAN CUP: Semi-final group: Limoges (Fr) 107, Bosna Sarajevo 88.

CYCLING
SAINT-RAPHEAL, France: (France unless stated) grand prix (67 miles): 1, P Jules, 2hr 58min, 2, A Bondue, 3, J-L Gauthier, 4, P Moerlen (Switz), all same time; 5, S Bauchera 22sec behind; 6, P Le Bigault 49sec, 7, P Sherwen (GB), 8, C Corre, 9, P Schroen, 10, D Lebon all same time.

HOCKEY
MELBOURNE: Women's four-nation tournament: Canada 1, US 1; Australia 2, New Zealand 1, Australia 2, Canada 2, US 3, New Zealand 0.

ICE HOCKEY
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Toronto Maple Leafs 3, New York Rangers 1; Vancouver Canucks 9, Pittsburgh Penguins 5; Chicago Black Hawks 4, Buffalo Sabres 3; St Louis Blues 7, Minnesota North Stars 5, New York Islanders 4, Winnipeg Jets 3; Philadelphia Flyers 5, Edmonton Oilers 3.

RUGBY UNION
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Hampshire Cup – Semi-finals: Portsmouth GS 31, Alton Coll 12. Representative Match: Public School Wanderers 26, British Polytecnics 15. Other Match: Old Swinford 15, Moseley 3.

HOCKEY
LONDON LEAGUE: Cheam 1, London University 1; Oxford University 0, Hawks 0.
REPRESENTATVIE MATCH: Police Ahtletic Association 1, Army 2.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Allhallows 1, Millfield 2; Bloxham 7, Oxford Sch 0; Caterham 6, Reed's 2; Colston's 1, Taunton 4.

SQUASH RACKETS
CUMBERLAND CUP: First Divison: Beckenham LTC 4, Wimbledon SC 1; Herga SC 2, Woodford Wells SC 3; Cumberland LTC 4, Grafton SC 1; Ealing SC 3, Coolhurst SC 2; Wanstead 4, Hampton SC 1.

GOLF
YAMOUSSOUKRO, Ivory Coast: Ivory Coast Open Championships (British unless stated): 69: B Gunson, D Jones, C Maltman. 70: M Mackenzie, M Miller, A Murray, D Williams. 71: S Bishop, S Doe, R Lee, A Forsbrand, (Swe), M Tapia (Fr). 72: R Craig, G Cullen, P Hoad, N Hunt, S Keppler, W McColl, K Waters. 73: B Adje (Ivory Coast), J Anderson (Can), P Dahlberg (Swe), R Darrieumerlou (Fr), M Persson (Swe), O Sellberg (Swe), G Watine (Fr), G Ralph, H Muscroft, D Jagger, J Higgins, G Harvey. 74. G Brand, G Broadbent, P Carrigill, R Chapman G Coles, P Cowen, S Hadfield, P Harrison, P Kent, J Lebbie (Sierra Leone), S Oussa (Eg), T Powell, G Stewart, P Tembo (Zam).

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian Open Tournament: First round: 67: J Furuki (Jap), T Tanaka (Jap). 68: T Gale (Aus), B Jones (Aus), J Clifford (Aus), G Serhan (Aus), F Minoza (Philippines). 69: Kyi Hla Han (Burma), Lu Chien-Soon (Tai), N Kawakami (Jap), J O'Leary (GB), J Hart (US), W Israelson (US). 70: W Grady (Aus), M Harwood (Aus), J Rutledge (Can), N Fujike (Jap), R Alarcon (Mex), E Bagtas (Philippines), R Laveras (Philippines), I Legaspi (Philippines). Other British scores: 70: M McClean, S Torrance. 71: E Darcy.

TENNIS
MADRID: Indoor Grand Prix (U.S. unless stated): First round: J Connors bt H Gunthardt (Switz) 6-4, 7-5; Tom Gullikson bt P Fleming 6-3, 6-4; J McEnroe bt W Fibak (Pol) 7-5, 6-1. Second round: K Curren (SA) bt S Denton 5-7, 7-6, 7-5; V Gerulaitis bt S Mecir (Cz) 7-6, 6-2; A Jarryd (Swe) bt C Hooper 6-3, 7-5; W Scanlon bt M Westphal (WG) 6-2, 6-4; Doubles: Curren and Denton bt J Nystrom (Swe) and S Simonsson (Swe) 6-4, 7-6.

FOOTBALL
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Birmingham City 1, Leicester City 5.
WATFORD: UEFA U16 Competition: Quarter-final first leg: England 4, France 0 (att: 1,214).

RUGBY LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull KR	20	15	1	4	505	252	31
Widnes	19	15	0	4	425	220	30
Castleford	21	13	2	6	511	275	28
Warrington	20	13	2	5	392	275	28
Hull	20	13	1	6	473	293	27
Bradford N	19	13	1	5	351	224	27
Leeds	19	12	1	6	405	319	25
St Helens	20	10	0	10	384	429	20
FeathrstonR	22	9	1	12	333	422	19
Leigh	20	9	0	11	399	358	18
Oldham	19	8	2	9	299	326	18
Wigan	18	8	0	10	275	290	16
Fulham	23	7	0	16	364	494	14
Salford	22	4	0	18	250	515	8
Whitehaven	22	1	0	21	221	761	2
Name							

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barrow	21	20	0	1	627	212	40
Hunslet	21	17	0	4	585	324	34
Halifax	20	15	1	4	413	315	31
Kt Invicta	22	14	0	8	400	374	28
Workington	17	13	1	3	333	194	27
Blackpool	23	12	3	8	341	294	27
York	23	12	1	10	481	357	25
Swinton	22	12	0	10	408	298	24
Rochdale	20	9	2	9	333	333	20
Batley	21	10	0	11	289	383	20
Bramley	18	8	2	8	336	246	18
Dewsbury	23	8	0	15	343	497	16
Cardiff	19	7	1	11	349	418	15
Huddrsfld	21	6	2	13	308	373	14
Keighley	22	7	0	15	280	401	14
Carlisle	17	4	0	13	236	348	8
Huyton	20	2	1	17	180	489	5
Doncaster	20	2	0	18	210	614	4

EQUESTRIANISM
ANTWERP: 1, F Tyrece (Bel) no T Soulalki 33.66pts, 2, M Whitaker (GB), Mastermind, no penalty 35 96; 3, Van Paeschen (Bel), Idolatre, no penalty 34 41, 4, L Cervera (Sp), Feinschnitt, no penalty 36.88; 5, M Whitaker (GB), Vulcain de Beaumont, no penalty 36.98; 6, J Oloff Wannius (Sw), Trio Irco Marco, no penalty 37 03.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

INTERNATIONALS: France 2, England 0; Belgium 0, West Germany 1; Luxembourg 0, Spain 1

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Hibernian 3, Dundee 1.

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Clyde 0, Dumbarton 0; Falkirk 1, Alloa 1; Morton 1, Clydebank 2; Raith 2, Kilmarnock 1.

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Queen of the South 2, Stirling Albion 2.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Scarborough 1, Northwich Victoria 1. Bob Lord Trophy, Third round, second leg: Yeovil 3, Kidderminster 1 (agg 5-2).

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Worksop 2, Hyde 1.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Kings Lynn 0, Fisher 3; Addlestone and Weybridge 0, Tonbridge 0. Midland Division: Merthyr Tydfil 3, Bridgewater 1. Southern Division: RS Southampton 4, Andover 2; Dunstable 1, Poole 0.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First Division: Newcastle 1, Burnley 0; Sheffield United 1, Leeds United 0; Stoke City 0, West Bromwich Albion 2; Sunderland 0, Everton 2; Notts County 1, Manchester City 0. Second Division: Port Vale 2, Blackpool 0.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Oxford United 0, Millwall 1.

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING MATCH: France 3, Spain 1.

OTHER MATCH: Corinthian Casuals 1, Cambridge University 2.

ROMANIAN LEAGUE: Dynamo Bucharest 1, Rapid Bucharest 2; Sportul Studentesc 2, Steaua Bucharest 0; SC Bacau 0, Petrolul Ploesti 1; FC Argest Pitesti 2, Universitatea Craiova 1; Jiul Petrosani 2, Corvinul Hunedoara 2, FC Olt 1, Dunarea Galati 1; Chimia Rimnicu Vilcea 1, FC Baia Mare 0;

هكذا من الأصل

CRICKET

England's latest tale of the unexpected gives Gatting opening chance

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Karachi

"We've thought up yet another combination for you", was how Willis sprung the surprise that England's innings will be opened in the first Test Match against Pakistan here today by Gatting and Smith. In the three Tests in New Zealand the opening pairs were Tavaré and Smith, Fowler and Tavaré, and Smith and Fowler. Also in the England side for today are the two spinners in the party, Marks and Cook, and Cowans is preferred to Foster and Dilley on his form in the last of the Test Matches in New Zealand.

Three reasons were given for the inclusion of Gatting in preference to the two regular openers, Tavaré and Fowler. Tavaré has been in no sort of touch, either in New Zealand or in the nets here, and the problems which Fowler had with Boock in the Auckland Test Match were seen as a warning not to choose him against a Pakistan side with three spinners in it. Gatting, on the other hand, is considered by Willis to be "a pretty good player of slow bowling".

It is an unexpected chance for Gatting. As Willis also said: "Time is, in some ways, running out for him". Gatting played his first Test Match in Karachi, in January 1978, before he had even made a first-class hundred. This will be his twenty-seventh and he is still struggling to take root. He has seldom gone in first for anyone, although the selectors approached him about doing so in 1982 as a way of getting him into the England side against India in England.

For everyone except Imran Khan, trying to bowl fast in Pakistan has become, since the end of matting pitches in 1959, the game's least rewarding pastime. Lillee and Thomson each had one tour here. Lillee took three wickets including one nightwatchman, for 303 runs, and Thomson's three cost only eight runs fewer. Imran's 53 wickets in nine Tests against Australia and India in the winter of 1982-83, at someting under 14 apiece, must rate as one of the most remarkable of all fast bowling feats.



Gatting: surprise opener

The selection of both Cook and Marks was therefore inevitable. Yet slow bowling, too, is very hard work out here. I doubt whether England have ever asked more of a less daunting pair of spinners. Among the many slow bowlers from England to have worn their fingers to the bone in Pakistan are Lock and Allen, Pocock and Underwood, and Gifford and Edmonds. Only once, back in 1962, have England achieved more than a draw.

There is, I sense, no Test match fever here such as there was in the winter of 1982-83 when Australia and India were being beaten out of sight. Since then Pakistan have had a bad World Cup in England and a disastrous tour of Australia.

Without Imran their game has lost the stability which he brought to it. His injury, a stress fracture, can in certain cases be one that never heals. If it seems strange that he is not playing as a batsman, I gather that in Australia recently he was unwise to do even that.

His and Miandad's absence from the series is bound to affect the gates, let alone Pakistan's chances. But for England to win one of the three Tests would still be a big surprise. Since the first, on New Year's Day 1955, Pakistan have lost only six of the 61 Tests they have played at home.

England's best chance could be on this Karachi wicket, which, like the outfield, is devoid of grass. It has had no rain for five months and the ball is sure to turn, albeit slowly. On the same ground six years ago Edmonds took seven for 66 in 33 overs in Pakistan's first innings. It can be done, but not by bowling at and outside the leg stump as Cook is said to have done, to order, in New Zealand.

Zaheer, who will be leading Pakistan for the first time at home, disclaims the reputation he has for being a "drawing" captain. "Inshallah (which means "with God's blessing") and with a little bit of luck, I will prove the impression wrong", he said.

That will be made no easier, though, by the sundry stoppages, riots quite apart, which invariably impinge on a day's play in Pakistan. The need to bowl no more than 77 overs in a full day and only seventy today, as agreed by the two cricket boards, is not going to be much of a help either.

Friday being the holiest day of the week in these parts, today's lunch interval will be extended by fifty minutes for prayers. To some extent this is aconcession to those of the Islamic faith who consider that cricket is a waste of time and therefore decadent. In days gone by, Pakistanis have mostly brought their prayer mats to the ground, to save a journey to the mosque, as some of them do at Lord's.

Zaheer's Test record, by the way, is worth noting. His first fourteen innings for Pakistan brought him 220 runs at an average of 97. The weather here is perfect for batting, too, even the midday sun being tempered by the lightest of breezes.

ENGLAND: R. G. D. Willis, C. L. Smith, M. W. Gatting, D. I. Gower, A. J. Lamb, D. W. Randall, I. T. Botham, V. J. Marks, R. W. Taylor, N. G. B. Cook, N. G. Cowans.

PAKISTAN: (from): Zaheer Abbas, Mudassar Nazar, Mohsin Khan, Qasim Omar, Salim Malik, Wasim Raja, †Anil Dalpat, Tausif Ahmed, Sarfraz Nawaz, Azeem Hafeez, Abdul Qadir, Iqbal Qasim, Shoaib Mohammad, Rameez Raja.

Lord's may lose a Test to provinces

The Test and County Cricket Board are having second thoughts about playing two Test matches at Lords when the Australians tour in 1985.

The financial advantages of such a move are obvious. The Lords receipts for the Australian game in 1981 were, at £389,297, by far the highest of the series, nearly £100,000 more than Old Trafford which took £295,000.

There is, however, a strong body of opinion which says the board, despite the financial sacrifice, should keep faith with Nottingham, Manchester and Birmingham where, before the introduction of six-match series, Australian games were staged on a rota basis. A decision will be made at the spring meeting of the board next Wednesday.

Lords is staging two Tests in 1984, one against West Indies and the other against Sri Lanka.

Football-style shirt sponsorship could come into cricket if the Board agrees to liberalize its present policy of markings on clothing and equipment. But it would need to be done after consultation with the BBC, who have their own regulations about what is permissible on television. In any event lettering or markings would be much smaller than on football strips.

Also on the agenda is a proposal to "tidy up" the rules of the John Player Special League. This would allow umpires to order completely new matches of a set number of overs when the original game has been badly disrupted by the weather. It is widely felt that under present regulations the team batting second has too great an advantage in rain-restricted games.

The meeting will also decide whether to give umpires stricter guidelines on when they should consider suspending play for bad light. It is proposed that play should be halted only when there is a risk of physical injury to the batsmen, after consideration of the sight screens or spectator background and the type of bowlers in action at the time.

Attempts to sort out the qualification rules for overseas players in county cricket – on which the counties have so far failed to agree – will be left to a special meeting in April.

Lloyd back for the first Test

Georgetown (Reuter) – Clive Lloyd has recovered from injuries and resumes as the West Indies' captain in the first Test of the five-match series against Australia starting here today.

Lloyd, aged 39, who has led his country in a world record 60 Tests, missed Wednesday's one-day international in Berbice, the first of four between the teams, because of an injured finger and pulled groin muscle suffered on the recent tour of Australia.

But there are doubts about all-rounder Eldine Baptiste, who scored 57 not out and took six wickets for the Leeward Islands against the Australians in their opening tour match.

An unbeaten 133 by the opening batsman Haynes and his second-wicket partnership with Richardson, who made 61, saw West Indies to an eight wickets win over Australia on Wednesday.

Australia lost only five wickets in reaching 231 but West Indies got within two runs of victory before losing their second wicket, and the match was settled by Richards, who hit a four off his first ball.

AUSTRALIA

S R Smith b Gomes	60
K C Wessels c Small b Richards	44
G M Ritchie run out	46
K J Hughes b Gomes	2
A R Border b Gomes	2
D M Jones not out	43
W B Phillips not out	0
Extras (b 7, l-b 18, n-b 9)	34
Total (for five wkts)	231

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-108, 2-137, 3-143, 4-159, 5-222.

BOWLING: Garner 10-1-35-0, Daniel 5-0-17-0, Davis 10-1-46-0, Small 5-0-14-0, Richards 10-0-38-1, Gomes 10-0-34-3.

West Indies

C G Greenidge c Phillips b Rackemann	28
D L Haynes not out	133
R Richardson c Jones b Alderman	61
I V A Richards not out	4
Extras (l-b 5, n-b 7)	12
Total (for two wickets)	233

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-62, 2-229.

BOWLING: Lawson 10-3-28-0; Alderman 10-0-62-1; Hogg 8-0-40-0; Rackemann 10-1-54-1; Border 6-1-22-0; Wessels 4-0-24-0.

Reid aids NZ recovery

Galle, Sri Lanka (Reuter) – John Reid marked his return for New Zealand after a three-year absence by hitting a half century which helped rescue his side against Sri Lanka Colts yesterday.

Reid scored 61 and shared a fourth-wicket stand of 64 with Jeff Crowe. (56) as the New Zealanders recovered from 62 for three and eventually declared at 245 for eight wickets. At close of play the Colts were two without loss.

NEW ZEALANDERS: First Innings

*J G Wright b John	1
B A Edgar lbw b John	7
J F Reid b John	61
M D Crowe c G N de Silva b A R de Silva	10
J J Crowe c Ranatunga b A R de Silva	56
J V Coney not out	53
J G Bracewell c Warnakulasuriya b Ranatunga	4
B L Cairns c de Alwis b G N de Silva	41
†D A Stirling b John	0
S L Boock not out	0
Extras (b-1 l-b-3 n-b-7 w-1)	12
Total (8 wkts dec)	245

E J Chatfield did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-23, 3-62, 4-126, 5-164, 6-189, 7-226, 8-231.

BOWLING: John 18-4-60-4; G N de Silva 10.4-1-26-1; A R de Silva 25-8-81-2; Kaluperuma 11-3-28-0; Perera 6-1-25-0; Ranatunga 11-4-33-1.

SRI LANKA COLTS: First Innings

E R N S Fernando not out	1
C P Amerasinghe not out	0
Extras (w-1)	1
Total (no wkt)	2

BOWLING: Stirling 1-0-1-0; Chatfield 0.2-0-0-0.

R Madugalle, G de Alwis, S Warnakulasuriya, A Ranatunga, S Kaluperuma, A de Silva, G Perera, V John and G de Silva to bat.

MOTOR CYCLING

Formula for driving ambition

By Jeremy Shaw

Competitors in the 1984 Marlboro British Formula Three Championship which starts at Silverstone on Sunday, have a great deal to live up to.

Ayrton Senna da Silva and Martin Brundle, who finished first and second in last year's series, have both secured drives with Formula One grand prix teams for the coming season, thus emphasizing the significance of Britains premier single-seater motor racing championship.

They are the latest in a long line of successful Formula Three drivers who have graduated to the top level of motor sport, including the current world champion, Nelson Piquet, the winner of the British Formula Three series in 1978.

Brundle, aged 23, from Kings Lynn, acknowledges the opportunity he gained through Fromula Three: "It is the most junior of the true international formulae," he says, "but it gives one the chance to race against the best young drivers from around the world. The experience is invaluable. It was because of Formula Three, and particularly the help I received from the Racing for Britain scheme, which helps to secure sponsorship for promising British drivers, that I gained my test drive with the Tyrrell team."

He has since signed a contract to race for them in the 1984 world championship season, while Senna, the Brazilian who was his season-long rival last year, has joined the rival Toleman team.



Gilbert-Scott: aiming high.

There are a host of young challengers looking to follow in their footsteps and with the promise, at least, of a Formula One test drive to the overall champion, the stakes are high. Prime among them are three young Britons, all of whom have shown well during pre-season testing.

Johnny Dumfries, a 25-year-old Scotsman now based in London, will drive the Team BP Ralt-Volkswagen, and is keen to build on a promising first season of Formula Three in 1983. "I was quite pleased that I was able to show a good turn of speed," he says, "but now I am ready to go out and try to win some races."

Andrew Gilbert-Scott, winner of two Formula Ford championship titles, and the Formula Ford Festival, last year, made an impressive Formula Three first appearance at the end of last season, finishing second at Thruxton in one of Murray Taylor's Ralt-VWs, and has recently joined Taylor's Silverstone-based team for a full season.

The third top British contender is likely to be David Hunt, the 23-year-old younger brother of James Hunt, the former world champion. He will drive an Eddie Jordan Racing Ralt-Toyota, and has shown particularly well during recent testing, despite a minimum of previous experience.

Overseas challengers will include the Canadian Allen Berg, a Formula Pacific champion in 1983; the highly rated young New Zealander Paul Radisich; the American Ross Cheever, the younger brother of the new Alfa Romea Formula One driver Eddie Cheever; the Swiss Mario Hytten; and the Dutchman Cor Euser, a former European Formula Ford champion.

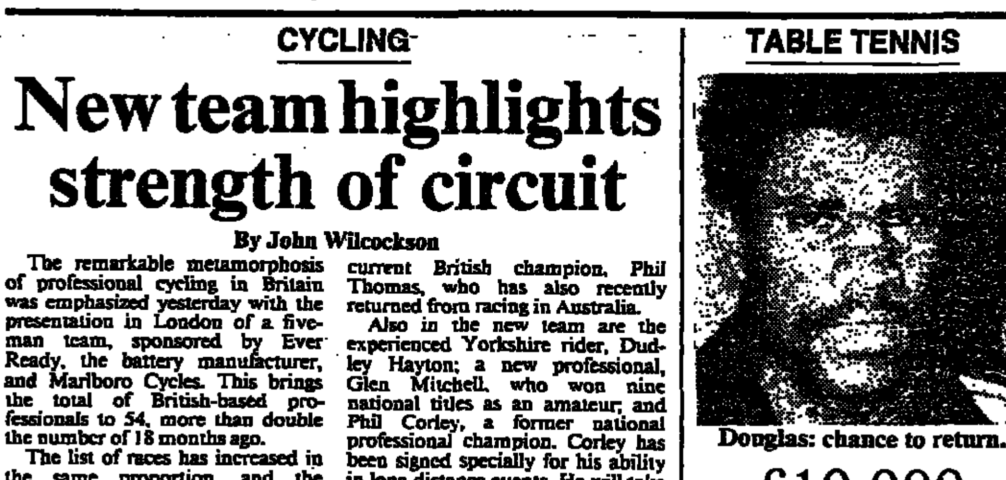
In all, 27 drivers are entered for Sunday's race, which represents the strongest field for the opening round in several seasons. This upsurge in interest is sure to result in close racing, especially with there being no clear-cut, pre-season favourite.

Double act may take Europe by surprise

Mafe has a talent beyond his years

Adeoye Mafe (it rhymes with café) is full of surprises. Seventeen-year-old British sprinters do not usually hammer top Americans like Mel Lattany, and certainly not twice in two days, as Mafe did six weeks ago in the AAA indoor championships. Nor are many students of politics, government and history. And none are coached by a television actor. Except Ade Mafe.

The next venue for the double act of Mafe and Ken Seddington, his coach – who is best known professionally as Benny Hill's double – is the Scandinavium arena in Gothenburg for the European indoor championships this weekend. Things have been rather hectic in the past few weeks but they managed to squeeze in half an hour for a chat with me on the way to the physiotherapist for the last time before leaving for Sweden yesterday.



No 1 would suit Mafe in Gothenburg this weekend.

Mafe's victory over Lattany to win the AAA 200 metres title, followed by one of the few British wins in the match against East Germany, have made the youngster the flavour of the month. His next free date in a busy round, according to Seddington, who fixes up the interviews, is the middle of the month.

Seddington, a club 440-yards runner in the 1950s before embarking on a career as a policeman, airline purser and television bit-part player, came back into athletics six years ago and Mafe was one of the first youngsters he started to coach in Houslow. Within two years Seddington realized what everyone else has realized in the last two months: Mafe could be a world-class sprinter.

"He equalled the British best for a 13-year-old (23.3 sec), then broke the record for the 14-year-olds (22.4), then the record for 15-year-olds (21.6)." Mafe went two better last year. His 20.92 for fifth place in the European junior championship was not only easily the best for a 16-year-old, it also beat the current bests for 17-and 18-year-olds as well.

"The next target is David Jenkins's junior best of 20.67," Mafe said intently. "Remember, it's the record for 19-year-olds and he's still only 17", Seddington interjected. Then Mafe emphasizes that in the last two years he has reduced his indoor best by about a second when he gets on the wide-sweeping bends of outdoor tracks.

With his new national indoor record at 21.28, Lattany's assessment of 20.3 for the youngster this year may not be an exaggeration. And that sort of time would have Mafe challenging Cameron Sharp, Buster Watson, Donovan Reid and Drew McMaster for the two spare places in the Olympic team with Allan Wells.

Mafe admits to being surprised himself by sprinters like Wells and Pietro Mennea, the Olympic 200 metres champion. "To be running at 32 is a bit of an achievement, you have to admire that." Mafe's admiration sounds motivated more by incomrehension than appreciation. After all, these men in his sights are almost as old as his father.

But also what impresses him about Mennea, and Calvin Smith, is that if you saw them on the street, you would not know they could run so fast – "thin, straggly little men yet, when you see them on the track, they just explode". Clearly Mafe, at 6ft 1in and over 11 stone and still growing, will not escape notice on the street.

Seddington has given up four days' television work to accompany his charge to Gothenburg. But the ebullience that kept us entertained at Cosford after his recent victories was largely missing from Mafe this week. Sore shins and pains after the removal of a bursar from behind his left knee have restricted his training in the last month, although the operation came before the good performances.

Seddington reckons that Mafe is half a stone overweight but a week's training in La Santa in the Canaries helped redresss the balance. They got back last weekend and Mafe had his first flat-out training session for a month last Tuesday.

"It went well," Seddington said. "If he can go through the heat and semi-final without any drama, the final should be a good one." He sounded as if he knew something that we did not. The final list of competitors will be known today but there are only four possibles with marginally faster times that Mafe. Europe could be in for a surprise.

Pat Butcher

CYCLING

New team highlights strength of circuit

By John Wilcockson

The remarkable metamorphosis of professional cycling in Britain was emphasized yesterday with the presentation in London of a five-man team, sponsored by Ever Ready, the battery manufacturer, and Marlboro Cycles. This brings the total of British-based professionals to 54, more than double the number of 18 months ago.

The list of races has increased in the same proportion, and the Eastbourne-London race on Sunday is only the first of a full season of road events, which includes three city-centre racing series to be screened respectively by Channel 4, TVS and Anglia.

The surprise leader of the Ever Ready-Marlboro team is a talented Australian rider, Shane Sutton, who will be based in Birmingham for the year. He has just completed a successful season in Australia, during which he won the nine-day Sun Tour in Victoria. He will make a formidable opponent for the current British champion, Phil Thomas, who has also recently returned from racing in Australia.

Also in the new team are the experienced Yorkshire rider, Dudley Hayton; a new professional, Glen Mitchell, who won nine national titles as an amateur; and Phil Corley, a former national professional champion. Corley has been signed specially for his ability in long-distance events. He will take part in a new American race, the Spenco "500", an ultra-marathon, single-day-race which has attracted an entry of more than 1,000, and takes place at Waco, Texas, in April. "I'm already preparing for the race," Corley said yesterday

The race this Sunday, the first event to count for the Elswick Falcon Gold Cup, will give a preliminary indication of the strength of the Ever Ready formation, and the four other major teams, Raleigh-Wienmann, Falcon, Moducel and Wightman-Fibrax.

HOCKEY

Hasty shots in circle cost Civil Service victory

By Sydney Friskin

Civil Service	3
Army	3

Civil Service went through their annual series of matches against the Armed Forces without a win after being held to an exciting draw by the Army at Chiswick yesterday. They had earlier lost 1–0 to the Navy, and drawn 1–1 with the Royal Air Force.

But Civil Service should have won yesterday's match, which seemed well in their grasp when they had taken a 3–1 lead about midway in the second half. A couple of hasty shots inside the circle denied them the chance of consolidating their position and the Army, extremely fit, made a fine recovery to save the day.

The Army's transformation was led by Wood, who had an outstanding game at centre half, stirring his forwards into activity and holding the defence together. For Civil Service, Dargo, a Scottish international, was resourceful as a linkman on the left (although for the most part he looked like a forward), and scored two well-taken goals.

Four penalty strokes were awarded in this match, the first of which was given to the Army in the third minute, when Gordon, who was moving fast inside the circle, was brought down by Giles. Jolly converted to give the Army the lead, which was short-lived. Four minutes later, Langutra put Luckhurst through a gap in the defence, and the outside right scored with a stgpng angled shot.

Late in the first half the Civil Service failed to convert a penalty stroke, Langutra's effort not being good enough to confound the goalkeeper at the second attempt. He did so at the first time of asking, but the whistle had not been blown, and he had to retake it.

In the last minute of a prolonged second half, which went into injury time, Civil Service took a well deserved lead, Dargo taking advantage of a misunderstanding in the Army defence to score at high speed. Five minutes after the interval, Civil Service went into a 3-1 lead, Dargo scoring with some help from Langutra.

The Army, however, gathered themselves together for a spirited onslaught and drew level from two penalty strokes, both converted with superb timing by Jennings. In the dying seconds, they neatly won the game when a shot by Jolly from a short corner went astray.

CIVIL SERVICE: M Wilson; P Giles (capt), S Fleming, J langutra, D Bradbury, A Batchelor, K Dargo, M Luckhurst, C Slatcher, L Newell.
ARMY: Cpl P Musson (RAPC); Sgt S Dove-Dixon (RCT), Capt S M R Eagen (RE), Lt P Leighton (Green Howards), Capt C Wood (RE, capt), Sgt C Peach (RAPC), Lt N Gordon (RA), Lt R Jolly (RA), L/Cpl I P Jennings (Para), Lt A Scropes (RE), Lt P Shuttleworth (3 LI).
Umpires: WO F Hubber (Combined Services), K Merrin (Southern Counties).

Up-and-go England

By Joyce Whitehead

England meet Wales tomorrow in the first international of the season at Gloucester and Phoenix cricket ground, Bishopston, Bristol. If the performance of England B last weekend is any guide, the A team, under their new coach, Jenny Cardwell, will be full of up-and-go and could run circles around Wales.

Wales, who have about as many clubs as Lancashire, have lost one of their finest players since the war in Sheila Morrow, who captained Wales B in the international tournament at Old Trafford last weekend and has retired after 112 full caps in 17 years.

Miss Morrow also captained Wales and Great Britain and whatever her position on the field, as centre half or back, she was dependable and exciting to watch.

TABLE TENNIS



Douglas: chance to return.

£10,000 offer to Douglas

By a Special Correspondent

Desmond Douglas, England's one and truly world-class table tennis player, may at last be coming home after spending the whole of his professional career competing in the German Bundesliga. An offer of £10,000 from the English Table tennis Association (ETTA) is about to be made to the six-times national champion in return for playing and promoting the game in this country.

The offer, still to be ratified at tomorrow's management committee meeting, is one of the most enterprising moves the often-criticized association has made. It provides hope that the sport can at last be properly promoted in England.

Quite how the beleagured ETTA, who were more than £40,000 in the red in the recent past, has found the necessary cash is something of a mystery. Why they want to do so is more clear. Douhlas recently withdrew from the Eropean top 12 tournament and at the age of 28 repeated his frequently expressed opinion that he wants to cut down on travelling.

A return to this country might thus create the double benefit of giving vitality to our own recently born by already moribund national league and of prolonging the career of arguably the finest player England has ever had.

The problem is whether Douglas would accept the terms even though the £10,000 is in addition to the £4,000 he already receives from the ETTA. "We would have to draw up a contract guaranteeing that he plays in certain events, assists in training and does a certain amount of PR work and exhibitions," Norman Reeve, ETTA vice chairman, said. "If we pay a sum like that he should promise things in return.

Prean recalled by England

Carl Prean, of the Isle of Wight, has been recalled to the England team for their final European League match against France at Guildford next Tuesday. The former England No 1 is selected after gaining two good wins in the recent European top 12 tournament. He lost his place because of poor form earlier in the season.

The other members of the side are Desmond Douglas (Birmingham), Graham Sandley (Potters Bar) and Alison Gordon (Reading).

The following evening England play France again in a non-league match at Rochford.

TENNIS

Ice packs, night caps and survivors on the longest day

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, New York

The second day's programme in the Virginia Slims championships, the final showpiece of the 12-month women's international circuit, lasted from 10 o'clock one morning until almost 2 o'clock the next. By that time it had seemed wise to make a tactical withdrawal to Eddie Condon's bar, ease the sense of shell-shock with jazz and a nightcap, and be thankful for the fact that only the singles final will be played over the best of five sets.

At 10 minutes short of 16 hours this was probably the longest day in the history of professional tennis – which would be appropriate because it was at Madison Square Garden that it all began. Press conferences here have often taken on the flavour of sympathetic interviews with casualties. One player after another has turned up encased in ice packs and so much bandaging that they were almost mummified. It seems that in this game there are no winners, only survivors.

At the age of 18, Andrea Jaeger, always reluctant to attach much importance to the distinction between victory and defeat, is privately reported to be disenchanted after four years of professional tennis.

This remains a more valid competitive outing for the elite than the equivalent Masters tournament for men, which sinks into the tennis trough called January. By contrast, the leading women have a reasonable chance to play themselves into form by the time they arrive on Broadway. During the first two days the seeding upsets – four in singles, one in doubles – did not affect the more fancied competitors.

The singles were down to Martina Navratiolova v Carling Bassett, Pam Shriver v Hana Mandlikova, Barbara Potter v Kathleen Horvath, and Helena Sukova v Chris Lloyd, whose progress to the final should be easier than Miss Navratilova's. The doubles semi-finals tuned out to be Miss Navratilova and Miss Shriver v Rosalyn Fairbank and Candy Reynolds, and Joanna Durie and Ann Kiyomura v Billie Jean King and Sharon Walsh.

Miss Durie, one of the beaten singles seeds, had some consolation in the small hours when she and Miss Kiyomura beat the fourth seeds, Kathy Jordan and Anne Smith. Miss Smith, mind you, has not been an assiduous competitor in the past year and Miss Jordan's competitive fires were burning low because she had been strenuously engaged for two hours and 18 minutes with Mrs Lloyd, who beat her 7–5, 4–6, 6–3.

This was a fine match. Miss Jordan, who is technically unorthodox and has an unusually fussy service wind-up, has had more self-confidence since she beat Mrs Lloyd at Wimbledon. She attacked persistently but disereetly, and her sliced backhand approach shots kept awkwardly low. Mrs Lloyd's counter-punching was just too good for her, notably on the critical points.

Mrs Lloyd, though smarter in her anticipation and sounder in her ball control, had some loose patches. "I didn't have much confidence in any area of my game", she said later. "I never felt grooved with the victory. Once in a while you have days like that and just hope you get through them. If I'd been sharper I would have gone in more often.

Miss Mandlikova, all supple grace and breathtaking daring, took an hour and 50 minutes to win 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 against Sylvia Hanika, who had won six of their seven previous indoor matches. Miss Hanika is a strongly-built left-hander who uses a wide variety of exaggerated spins. "I don't like playing her", Miss Mandlikova said. "She has a funny game and I don't know what to expect."

Miss Mandlikova, nervous, was 1-5 down before finding her rhythm with a run of three games. As far as the first set was concerned, that burst was belated. Miss Hanika had chances to take charge of the second set, too. The outcome hung in the balance until Miss Mandlikova struck – and maintained – a flashing vein that compounded the adventurous and the discreet. The drama was enhanced by the resonant bass of the umpire, who slowly intoned the score like a prophet of doom. The tournament is warming up nicely.

FIRST ROUND: H Mandlikova (Cz) bt Hanika (WG) 4-6, 6-2, 6-3, Lloyd (US) bt K Jordan (US) 7-5, 4-6, 6-3; C Bassett (Can) bt Zina Garrison (US) 6-4, 6-4.

● DALLAS, (Reuter) – Buick will expand its sponsorship of sporting events by underwriting this year's World Championship Tennis finals tournament.

No flag waving

Kunming, China (Reuter) – South Korean officials said yesterday that they had finally agreed there should be no national flags or anthems when play begins today in their first Davis Cup tie against China. In return, they seem to have scored a diplomatic point by prevailing on the Chinese organizers to refer to their team as Korea.

Thirty years after the Korean war, in which China fought alongside the communist North, there have been signs of a thaw in the mutual disdain between Peking and Seoul.

Bates throws racket and 'bored' tantrum

By Lewine Mair

Although Jeremy Bates defeated George Jarck 3–6, 6–1, 6–4, in the quarter-finals of the LTA Masters at Bramhall, near Manchester, yesterday, the conversation he had with the umpire at the end of the first set amply demonstrated the problems which lie ahed of Paul Hutchins if he is to shape Bates into the kind of competitor on whom the British public would want to pin their hopes in a Davis Cup.

In the final point of the set Bates, who is 21, walked towards the umpire's chair almost before Jarck's service had left his racket. "Am I allowed to retire?" he asked Jeremy Shales. "I could", Shales said, a little uneasily, "count you out under the code violation scheme – but what's the matter?" "I'm bored", Bates replied.

Jarck thought that the match was his, and he was through to the semi-finals. When Bates decided to play on, the American exclaimed lightly that the umpire should have said "yes" to Bates's request and left it at that.

But in the time it took for him to fall to 0–5 in the second set he became rather more bitter. "The feeling I had", Jarck said after the match, "was that the umpire had coerced Jeremy into carrying on

Stoke City football club will no doubt be surprised to learn that they were tied up in the next big incident. After breaking his fist racket, Bates switched to another on whose strings he had inscribed the football club's initials. Just after Jarck had had his service broken to fall to 2-3 in the final set, the umpire told Bates that he would have to switch to yet another racket because it was illegal to have anything on the strings other than the maker's motif.

When Bates said that his other racket was in his car, Alan Mills, the tournament referee, agreed that he could play on with the "Stoke City" racket. All of which had Jarck complaining bitterly that exceptions were being made

Jarck went to Mills later to say he felt that he had been "cheated out of the match". He spoke also to Bates, who apparently agreed that the decisions taken were not necessarily correct

Bates was fined £35 for twice throwing his racket. The general view was that his remarks to the umpire amounted to a far greater offence.

QUARTER-FINALS: S Perkiss (Isr) bt W Hampson (Aus) 6-3, 6-2; G Layendecker (US) bt R Bathman (Swe) 7-6, 6-1, J Bates bt G Jarck (US) 3-6, 6-1, 6-4; P Lundgren (Swe) bt G Haynes (US) 6-2, 6-4.

Satellite circuit may have to change its orbit

Paul Hutchins, the LTA's national team manager, will be weighing up the virtues of the LTA's £70,000 five-week satellite circuit this weekend.

From the home players's point of view, the tour has been of most use to Jeremy Bates and Stuart Bale. As Hutchins had expected, the two have made the most impact on this international tour and have between them been involved in 30 of the 77 matches played by Britain.

After his match yesterday with George Jarck, Bates stated categorically that it is not just in the matter of computer points that he has made an advance: "I played so many close matches on this circuit that as soon as things get tight I know I'm going to come out on top."

If the feeling is that not enough British players have benefitted from this expensive exercise, Hutchins may well have had it put to him that he would do better to swich to a series of closed events in which our players could raise their standard by competing against each other. Again, he could spend the money on sending our better players to satellite events abroad.

From the overseas player's point of view, the five-week circuit has been more expensive than expected, with costly accommodation the main drain on resources. Glen Layendecker, who won at Coventry in the fourth week and is in the semi-finals, was speaking for most Americans when he said he would have preferred it had there been less prize money but more in the way of cheap housing.

This need to go carefully financially has also contributed to boredom. With hired cars out of the question, the visiting players have found themselves tucked away in the indoor centres from first thing in the morning to last thing at night. They cannot get far on foot since new complexes tend to be in the middle of nowhere.

The lack of practice facilities has been another *crib du coeur* but, on the plus side, there are a number of competitors who will tell you that they opted for our satellite tour in preference to concurrent circuits in other parts of the world because they like to be able to speak English.

Lewine Mair

LACROSSE

US invitation to British teams

By Peter Tatlow

Britain's lacross officials can scarcely believe that, after over 100 years of the game in Britain, their sport has at last been honoured by an invitation to a pre-Olympic tournament in Los Angeles from July 19 to 21. It came out of the blue from the United States and the Women's and Men's associations have accepted despite having to finance the tour themselves.

The women's tournament is between Australia, Canada, the United States and Britain.

The women's home international season, strating at Crystal Palace this evening between England and England Reserves, with Wales v Scotland at Cardiff tomorrow, is now seen as a trial

BOWLS

Bryant lines up fifth indoor title

By Gordon Allan

David Bryant will be trying to win the singles title for the fifth time in the British Isles indoor championships, sponsored by CIS, at Folkestone next Tuesday. In one semi-final round match he plays Michael Dunlop, the Irish champion.

The pairs, triples and fours will be played the same day. The home international series, won by England at Ardrossan last year, starts on Wednesdaiy and ends on Friday.

It is expected that during these championships the World Indoor Bowls Council will meet to settle the vexed question of whether or not to move the world indoor championship from Coatbridge to an English stadium next year.

BOXING

Barrett comes out fighting again

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

It is the night of the heavies at Wembley on March 13. Frank Bruno, Britain's world No 10, takes on Juan Gulliver Figueroa, the *Argentine champion;* Trevor Berbick, the Commonwealth champion and world No 6, faces Mark "White Lightning" Lee, of Nevada; and Funso Banjo uses Leroy Diggs, of New Jersey, to show that he has improved 1,000 per cent since the last time he was given the bird at the Albert Hall.

Yet it is Bobby Rico Hoye, the man in the middle of the British middleweights, who sticks out like the Old Man of Hoy. He has been booked by Mike Barrett to box Mark Kaylor, and Frank Warren, Barrett's bitter rival, also has the American lined up to face Errol *Christie a week* later at the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, London.

Warren claimed yesterday that he had just received a telegram from Hoye's manager, Billy Gutz, saying that he would be boxing for him on March 21. Barrett maintained – though somehow, I felt, with not too great a conviction – that Hoye would be showing up at Wembley.

Barrett said that though he did *not* have a written contract with Gutz. "In this hard game a man's word is his bond. I have never had contracts with anybody. Everthing's been on trust. I have never in my 25 years in the game known a case where, *having made a deal, another* promoter has gone behind you to get a man. It is a form of piracy."

Barrett was clearly not pinning his faith on Hoye's manager. "Let us see what the fighter is going to do," he said. "The situation will be straightened out in the next few days."

The Wembley promoter said he would not be losing any sleep over *the matter. "So far as I am* concerned, Hoye has contracted to fight Mark Kaylor and I trust that the board will refuse to let Hoye fight somebody else."

Barrett has not yet protested to the board. Kaylor himself did not seem too bothered whom he boxed, so long as he did not miss fighting Sibson one of these days. "I wish I could watch it", he said.

The heavyweight opponents have not yet arrived but Barrett said they would be here on Wednesday. Berbick, however, did meet his long-lost brother and sister, whom he has not seen for 30 years. They left Jamaica for Britain when he was a baby. He joined the American Navy before settling in Canada.

Berbick said that now he had found two of his family of *12;* he would be a regular visitor to Britain and would box under Micky Duff's management. While Bruno was in Florida finishing off his training, Berbick took him under his wing a showed him the ropes. We could see some of those tricks at Wembley on Tuesday week.

SCHOOLS RUGBY

Emphasis on North in trial sides

By Michael Stevenson

The England 18-group selectors moved a step nearer deciding the team to meet Wales at Cambridge on April 11 with their choice of the sides for the final trial at Nottingham on March 10.

This followed a thoroughly satisfactory North v Midlands match at Selby last Saturday, played on an excellent surface which encouraged open rugby with a minimum amount of kicking.

There were a number of permutations in the three 25-minute periods, so it was hardly true to say that the North played the Midlands; nevertheless, the North's players particularly their excellent centres, Carling and Priestley, came out with great credit.

Last Saturday Sevenoaks, who have had a disappointing season, were checked by a 31-9 victory over Emanuel. The Sevenoaks pack were in good form and their scrum-half and captain, Pitcairn-Knowles, scored two tries. The Sevenoaks side, who have won only five of their 18 matches, with two drawn, are young, so that prospects for next season seem much brighter.

West Park, unbeaten after 25 matches, have lost at last, but their remarkable record is still intact. This apparent illogicality is explained by the circumstances of their defeat, which was in the final of the Waterloo 15-a-side tournament last Sunday, in which they went down 12-6 to Wirral GS, scoring a late converted penalty try in the second half to the winners' goal dropped goal and penalty.

Arnold and Leeds GS are early tourists this spring, the former having just returned from their first trip to France. They took 36 boys, beating St Pol under-19s 38-0 under floodlights and, on Sunday, Boulogne 23-0.

Leeds were visiting Portugal for the third time and won all three matches played:

The trial teams are:

[illegible]

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
Third division
Southend v Burnley

RUGBY UNION
[illegible]

BASKETBALL
NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Kingston v Bolton (8.0).

OTHER SPORT
BADMINTON: Under-18 championships (Court 2 C, Bretton, Peterborough, 2.30).
[illegible]

RACING

John Bunyan in mood to dash Greenall's hopes

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The highlight of the Ron Barry testimonial year is the race day for his benefit at Haydock Park this afternoon when the entire programme has been sponsored by six different companies. Barry was elected to receive the first testimonial ever awarded to a jump jockey because of his outstanding contribution to the sport during a riding career that spanned 20 years and ended last October.

No one has worked harder to ensure the success of the testimonial than the former champion amateur Peter Greenall, who is both chairman of the fund raising committee and a director of the Stretton Automatics Limited, the sponsors of the Hunters chase this afternoon.

So a victory for Greenall, on his own horse Titan Wood in his firm's race would be singularly appropriate. However sentiment must not be allowed to get in the way of reason and it is hard to envisage Titan Wood being good enough *to* beat that smart point-to-pointer and budding hunter chaser John Bunyon who excelled at Doncaster only last Saturday when he failed by half a length to give 11lb to Swiftwood.

Gill O'Whiskey and Connought Ranger, who had both won their previous races were, well beaten *off in third* and fourth places, thereby drawing further attention to the merit of that form.

Rathgorman, a former winner *of the* Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham, may not be the force he was once. But following that run at Huntingdon last week, which should have helped to blow away the cobwebs after such a lengthy absence, he could still be up to beating Pounentes and Clayside in the Grunhalle Lager Handicap Steeplechase. His stable companion Mac's Park should complete a double for Michael Dickinson and Graham Bradley by winning the Vladivar Vodka Handicap Hurdle.

At Newbury John Francome will be presented with the Amoco Jockey of the Month award for February. Becoming only the second man to ride 1,000 winners under National Hunt rules probably influenced the majority of the panel rather than any one result during the month.

Francome's next target is to beat Stan Mellor's record of 1034. Today there is a good chance that he will get closer to that goal, thanks to victories on Aces Wild (2.30) Romany Nightshade (3.00) and Hazy Sunset (4.30).

Aces Wild, my selection for the Steel Plate and Sections Young Chasers qualifier, ought to be far happier now that he is racing over two and a half miles again. He found two miles too sharp for him at Ascot last month when he was beaten a length by Cybrandian. Before that he had beaten Linawn by a dozen lengths in the Killiney Novices Steeplechase, over today's distance at Ascot,

Romany Nightshade, my selection for the Arkell Brewry Handicap Steeplechase seems to be improving with every race and I will be surprised if either Lucyfar or Royal Mere can give him this weight.

Bajan Sunshine, the winner of the Cesarewich last Autumn, made *a successful start* to his jumping career when he won at Sandown last month. But well though he jumped that day, beating Bold Print by half a lenght was *nothing to write* home about and I prefer to give Hazy Sunset another opportunity to justivy all the lavish praise heaped upon him in Ireland last year

Newbury BBC

[Televised: *2.30, 3.0, 3.30*]

GOING: Good

Tote double: 3.0, 4.0. Treble: 2.30, 3.30, 4.30

2.0 WHATCOMBE NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £1,601: 2m 100yd) (14 runners)

102	p00-10	KINGHOLM QUAY (Lady FitzAlan Howard) Lady Herries 6-11-5	G Newman
104	0/0-p	BRETON BANQUET (P Dennis) Mrs E Kennard 6-10-12	R Hoare
105	0000-43	CAPTAIN COURAGE (BF) (Mrs H Ewards) D Barons 6-10-12	J Frost
109	001	DEEP PROSPECT (Shaikh Ali Abu Khamsin) Mrs M Rimell 5-10-12	R Linley
114	404-003	INDIAN MAJOR (Miss P Barnes) Miss P Barnes 7-10-12	M Bastard
115	000	JOHN FEATHER (Mrs J Ramsay) D Oughton 5-10-12	P Double
116	00b	KERRY DIAMOND (P Gray) P Gray 6-10-12	A Carroll
117	0/04140	KNOCK CROSS (Mrs M Rogers) D Nicholson 6-10-12	N Madden
119	00-p0	MONIAR (J Bird) A Moore 5-10-12	G Moore
123	2	PENNY BANK (P Mellon) I Balding 5-10-12	B Reilly
124	00	RHYMER'S TOWER (P Betts) J Gifford 5-10-12	R Rowe
125	2000	SIR KENWIN J Winterbourne) R Armytage 6-10-12	A Webber
126		THE DUISE (P Peake) K Bailey 6-10-12	M Perrett
127	0000-	MARIBAN (J Lewis) J Roberts 5-10-7	–

1983: Pieroth 5-11-5 C Brown (20-1) G Kindersley, 19 ran.

5-2 Penny Bank, 3 Deep Prospect, 9-2 Rhymer's Tower, 13-2 Knock Cross, 9 Indian Major, 14 Captain Courage, Kingholm Quay, 20 others.

2.30 STEEL PLATE & SECTIONS NOVICE CHASE (Qualifier: £2,501: 2m 4f) (7)

[illegible]

3.0 ARKELL BREWERY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,137: 2m 160yd) (10)

[illegible]

3.30 DAILY MIRROR CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS (handicap hurdle: £1,998: 3m 120yd) (17)

[illegible]

4.0 MARCH HARE HANDICAP HURDLE (4-y-o: £2,309: 2m 100yd) (12)

[illegible]

4.30 WHATCOMBE NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £1,654: 2m 100yd) (14)

[illegible]

Newbury selections

By Michael Phillips

2.0 The Duise. 2.30 Aces Wild. 3.0 Romany Nightshade. 3.30 Annex. 4.0 Tournament Leader. 4.30 Hazy Sunset.



Ben's Birdie (left) leading Golden Brigadier on his way to victory in the second division of the Orpington Novices' Hurdle at Lingfield (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

Great Light shows old sparkle

The trainer John Jenkins won at Lingfield yesterday with his first runner since moving to new stables at Epsom this week and ended up before the stewards.

Jenkins' Great Light, who completed a treble for John Francome, the man of the moment, beat the 3-1 on favourite, Churches Green, in the Three Counties Handicap Hurdle. The six-year-old, disappointing all season, won easily by five lengths, despite conceding two stone to the runner-up, who was attempting to win his fifth race in a row.

The stewards asked Jenkins to explain this improvement compared to Great Light's lacklustre effort at Wincanton last week. They accepted the explanation that the West Country run was hindered by a poisoned foot, and throughout the season the horse had suffered from shoulder stiffness.

Francome said that Great Light felt a different horse this time, enjoyed his racing, jumped well, and needed no driving. Turning into the straight, Churches Green led Great Light, but Mark Perrett brought the Stan Mellor-trained five-year-old towards the stands side, while Francome hugged the far rail, looking for better ground.

Mellor said afterwards: "The horse wandered back to the centre of the track, where the worse ground was. He also finished slightly lame." Jenkins said: "Great Light has just come right now. It's the first time he's had soft ground all year." He added that Great Light's likely target is the Imperial Cup, for which he escapes a penalty.

Francome's treble took him closer to his next milestone – he now needs only another three winners to be the first jockey to ride centuries in four successive seasons.

He started the afternoon with a victory on Orange Reef in the first division of the Oprington Novice's Hurdle. But Gay Kindersley's four-year-old, bought for 40,000 guineas *out of Jeremy Tree's stable, had to* be driven out to best Seabattle. Francome reported, "The ground has just a bit sticky for him. He needs it a bit wetter.

Francome had an easy win on Mossy Moore, who completed a five-timer in the Manifesto Novice's Chase. Francome went to the 999 mark on Mossy Moore at Kempton on Saturday, and the eight-year-old has shown so much improvement *this season that his permit holder* Brian Chinn has not entered him for any of the novice events at Cheltenham.

Bristol-based Chinn said: "John *told me afterwards that it is a shame* we cannot run him in the 'Arkle', he's very impressed by the horse. I'll probably run him at Sandown next, before going to Aintree for the novice handicap over two and a half *miles. He may then run in the* Future Champins Chase at Ayr."

A familiar face at the Surrey track, Straight Jocelyn, recorded his eighth success at the course when he landed the Jerry M Handicap Chase.

Ballot is threat to Kumbi

Donald McCain's dream of Kumbi following in Red Rum's Grand National footsteps may be thwarted by the probable ballot on the big Aintree race. The Southport trainer is keen to run Kumbi, winner of yesterday's Forbra Gold Cup at Ludlow, in the National but the gelding has only 9st 5lb and may be *balloted out.*

Beryl McCain, standing in for her husband, said: "Obviously we are keen to have a crack at the big one but with the weight situation we may have to go for the Kaltenberg *Pils* Chase instead." Kumbi was well ridden by Kevin Doola, although there was a moment of alarm on the run to the final fence.

***Having taken up the running at* the last on the far side, Kumbi was in a decisive lead when he made for a fence which is only jumped first time round. Doolan, having his first ride on the course, quickly pointed him back in the right direction and Kumbi stayed on strongly to beat Laurensun by 2½ lengths.**

Doolan joined McCain in December on John O'Neill's *recommendation.* He has had spells in Ireland with Michael O'Brien and in America with O'Brien's brother, Leo. Doolan has ridden 15 winners since moving to England.

There was a hiccup at the presentation ceremony, when it was discovered that the previous holder had forgotten to bring the challenge cup. It will now be presented at the next meeting on March 23.

Norman Babbage, who fell from Corby Wood at the sixth, was taken to Shrewsbury hospital with chest injuries.

***Another Liverpool-bound horse* is, appropriately, Seagram, who carries the name of the National sponsors. *He was an emphatic winner of the Coverdale Novices' Hurdle. Partnered by Jimmy Frost,* he led at the last and drew steadily clear to beat Aisayegh by seven lengths.**

David Barons, Seagram's trainer, *said: "We've had some years in the* doldrums because the horses were moderate. I've better quality horses now and I've another 38 New Zealand-bred horsees arriving next week."

***Intoxicated* was a 33-1 winner of the Aldon Handicap Chase after being left in a clear lead when his closest pursuer, Skeheens, was fatally injured in a fall at the twelfth fence.**

TOMORROW'S ADVANCE GOING: Hereford: good to soft. Market Rasen: good to soft.

Haydock Park

GOING: Good

Tote double: 2.45, 3.45. Treble: 2.15, 3.15, 4.15

1.45 DREW WINE CELLARS NOVICE HURDLE (£1,331: 2m) (17 runners)

2	401	ECHO SOUNDER (Lady Vestey) D Nicholson 5-11-10	P Scudamore
4	10-0b0p	BARNSTED (R Lloyd) W Whiston 5-11-3	S J O'Neill
5	0	BROXTED BOY (J Carden) J Carden 5-11-3	Mr J Carden
6	00/00-0	DAWN RIVER (S Green) N Crump 7-11-3	C Hawkins
9	3	GOLDEN REDEEMER (Mrs E Misa) Mrs W Sykes 6-11-3	–
10	ppf00	GOLDROY (R Lloyd) W Whiston 5-11-3	R Crank
14	402	JUST ALICK (S Childs) M H Easterby 5-11-3	Mr T Easterby
16	p0	MERITOUS (D Hill) T Taylor 9-11-3	
18	002p-0	MR CHOW (C Bridgett) C Bridgett 5-11-3	Mr C Bridgett
19	00-4000	PRINCE REVIEWER (J Zochonis) A W Jones 6-11-3	Miss D Jones 4
21		SAINTLY SCHOLAR (C Platts) Miss S Hall 6-11-3	R Earnshaw
25	01	RED RIPPLE (D) (Z Wilkinson) E Alston 4-11-2	Mrs J Conway
29	00-f00	LEAWELL (J Dalton) J Dalton 5-10-12	J Suthern
33		DONALABOO (R Wilkinson) J Wilson 4-10-9	C Grant
34	04	KING JO (D Timothy) Mrs M Rimell 4-10-9	S Morshead
35	03	PRIVATE LABEL (F Lee) F Lee 4-10-9	P A Charlton
37		TENDER PET (W Joyce) B Palling 4-10-9	A Griffiths 4

1983: No corresponding race

5-2 Echo Sounder, 7-2 Private Label, 4 Just Alick, 6 King Jo, 10 Red Ripple, Golden Redeemer, 14 Prince Reviewer, 20 others.

2.15 STRETTON AUTOMATICS HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £852: 3m) (5)

2	111-32	JOHN BUNYAN (Mrs R Newton) Mrs R Newton 9-12-7	J Newton
3	1212	TITAN WOOD (BF) (P Greenall) P Greenall 7-12-7	P Greenall
9		DANIEL DUNAS (B Hirst) B Hirst 11-12-0	B Hirst 7
10	400000-	HOT PRETENCE (D Hodgson) D Hodgson 7-12-0	J Quinn 7
15	/0p4p-f	WAITE (Miss M Forsyth) G Harman 14-12-0	Miss M Forsyth 7

1983: Compton Lad 10-12-7 D Browne (1-3 fav) M W Dickinson 8 ran

4-7 John Bunyan, 5-2 Titan Wood, 8 Hot Pretence, 16 Waite, 33 Daniel Dunas.

2.45 GRUNHALLE LAGER HANDICAP CHASE (£2,223: 2m) (3)

2	22210-3	RATHGORMAN (CD) (J Lilley) M W Dickinson 12-11-13	G Bradley
3	1111p0	POUNENTES (B) (D) (W McGhie) W McGhie 7-11-0	N Doughty
5	431-314	CLAYSIDE (CD) (Mrs D Grant) M H Easterby 10-10-4	A Brown

1983: Snowtown Boy 8-10-7 K Whyte (3-1 jt-fav) J Berry 8 ran

8-11 Rathgorman, 6-4 Clayside, 6 Pounentes.

3.15 VLADIVAR VODKA HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,425: 2m 4f) (16)

1	010-030	JUNGLE JIM (Salford Van Hire) D Nicholson 6-11-10	P Scudamore
3	010/100	MACS PARK (D) (J Haddon) M W Dickinson 7-11-7	G Bradley
9	221-000	BURN NOOKA (B) (D) (C Alexander) R Fisher 7-10-11	J Duggan 7
11	1411-00	SIMBAD (Mrs M Rigg) R Fisher 8-10-6	M Williams
12	0820ub	SLOANE STREET (J Dooler) J Dooler 7-10-6	D Oldham
14	221100	SUNSHINE GAL (C Burrough) M Pipe 6-10-5	R Dennis 4
15	23-p020	SQUIRES CLOSE (J Gilman) N Crump 6-10-5	C Hawkins
16	1303p1	CROWECOPPER (D) (Peter Crowe) B Preece 5-10-2 (9 ex)	R Stronge 4
19	ppp-034	LAAKEN (D) (S Taylor) E Alston 9-10-0	K Doolan 7
20	00u000	HIGH RIDGE (B) (E Lodge) J Perrett 5-10-0	J Nolan
22	4-43400	PAPERACER (A Parton) B Preece 5-10-0	W Morris 4
24	422/40-	HARVESTER GLORY (D) (M Flynn) M Cousins 8-10-0	S J O'Neill
26	30000/0	MENDELITA (C) (J Peers) R Stubbs 8-10-0	R Lamb
27	0f303f	STRAWHILL (Mrs L Ford) E Alston 9-10-0	S Kettlewell 4
28	210p/0-	FRANKIE (D) (Miss A Dipple) A W Jones 11-10-0	Miss D Jones 4
29	4pp200	THUMPS (J Dalton) J Dalton 8-10-0	J Suthern

1983: No corresponding race

7-2 Crowecopper, 5 Jungle Jim, 6 Sunshine Gal, Macs Park, 10 Simbad, Burn Nooka, 12 Sloane Street, Squires Close, 16 Laaken, 25 others.

3.45 G W HOTELS NOVICE CHASE (Amateurs: £1,594: 2m) (5)

2	8-010p0	NORTHERN MAN (D) (R Fisher) R Fisher 7-12-7	J Quinn 7
12	0404-00	NIMBO (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 6-12-0	Miss T Waggott 7
13	000/0-0	SPARKLING BARRON (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 7-12-0	Miss J Simpson 7
16	010414	BLACKFEET (BF) (A McInally) J Wilson 5-11-13	J Walton
17	2f00f0	WEALTHY (M Low) M Scudamore 8-11-9	M Low 4

1983: No corresponding race

4-7 Blackfeet, 9-4 Wealthy, 8 Northern Man, 33 Nimbo, Sparkling Iron.

4.15 GREENALL WHITLEY HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,348: 2m) (14)

4	0-f1231	KARENOMORE (D) (Lt-Col R Warden) M H Easterby 5-11-7	Mr T Easterby
5	1-00001	EMANDAR (D) (H Ryder) H Wharton 5-11-4	S Youlden 7
6	0100	LEGAL EMPEROR (Mrs R McLaughlin) J Fitzgerald 6-11-4	M Dwyer
7	3/01-00	SCOTTISH DREAM (D) (D Redhead) G Richards 6-11-2	N Doughty
8	010403-	KINGSBERE (D) (S Alcock) M Cousins 8-10-13	J Hansen 4
9	4-10103	HAVENWOOD (Havenwood Ltd) K Stone 5-10-11	A Brown
10	13004	HAGEN QUEEN (D) (B Chambers) C Crossley 5-10-9	P A Farrell 7
11	333200	DOUBLE DISCOUNT (D) (Mrs J Ramsden) C James 6-10-8	–
13	f1f04f	MARK EDELSON (D) (M Parrish) J Jefferson 7-10-6	M Hill 7
14	0-012b0	AN-GO-LOOK (D) (Mrs M Barker) M Scudamore 5-10-5	P Scudamore
15	02-0p40	RODACE (H Benson) W Whiston 5-10-5	S J O'Neill
18	1-0000f	LIFESTYLE (D) (Mrs F Cross) J Townson 6-10-2	R Stronge 4
21	2p0-p00	CORVEN (B) (J Hopton) B Wilkinson 7-10-0	C Hawkins
22	0pff00-	ROCKMAN (Mrs P Rigby) Mrs P Rigby 6-10-0	Mrs P Rigby

1983: Quickthorn 7-10-0 M Floyd (12-1) R Hartop 24 ran.

100-30 Emandar, Karenomore, 4 Havenwood, 8 Hagen Queen, Legal Emperor, 10 Double Discount, 14 Scottish Dream, An-Go-Look, 20 others.

Haydock selections

By Michael Philips

1.45 King Jo. 2.15 John Punyan. 2.45 Rathgorman. 3.15 Mac's Park. 3.45 Blackfeet. 4.15 Karenomore.

Lingfield results

Going: Hurdles-soft Chases-good to soft.

2.00 ORPINGTON NOVICES' HURDLE (Div. I: £548: 2m)

ORANGE REEF ch c by Mill Reef – Carrot Top(M Gilkstein) 4-11-1 ... J Francome (8-11 fav) 1
Seabattle ... R Rowe (13-2) 2
Royal Maax ... Mr W Morgan (33-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.60. Places: £1.10, £1.60, £15.90. DF: £2.30. CSF: £5.62. G Kindersley at *East Garston. 6l, 2l. Eves Great* (9-2) 4th, 15 ran. NR: Eurolink Boy, Colonel Godfrey.

2.30 R E SASSOON HUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £841: 3m)

VENTURE TO COGNAC b g by Hot Brandy – Ventura More (N Sherwood) 11-12-0 ... O Sherwood (1-3 fav) 1
Pine King ... G Maundrell (25-1) 2
Loyal Partner ... T Grantham (9-2) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.30. Places: £1.10, £1.70, £1.10. DF: £6.40. CSF: £10.07. F Winter at Cambourn 8l, 10l. Abo (33-1) 4th. 8 ran.

3.00 ORPINGTON NOVICES' HURDLE (Div. II: £548: 2m)

BEN'S BIRDIE ch g by Track Spare – Golden Topaz (Mrs A Tomkins) 4-10-10 ... R Linley 1
Martial Commander ... [illegible] 2
Golden Brigadier ... P Murphy (7-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.10. Places: £1.20, £1.90, £1.60. DF: £9.80. CSF: £12.36. M Tompkins at Newmarket nk, 5l. November Rain (25-1) 4th. 12 ran. NR: Galaxy Imp.

3.30 JERRY M HANDICAP CHASE (£3,118: 2m 4f)

STRAIGHT JOCELYN b g by Straight Lad – Black Bess (D Jackson) 12-11-10 ... A Webber (8-13 fav) 1
Tiepolino ... S Smith Eccles (5-1) 2
Romany Count ... C Gray (6-2) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.70. DF: £2.10. CSF: £3.23. R Armytage at East Ilsley. 8l, 12l. 3 ran.

4.0 MANIFESTO CHASE (Novices: £1,828: 2m

MOSSY MOORE br g by Master Owen – Choir Belle (B Chinn) 8-11-13 ... J Francome (2-5 fav) 1
Ten Bears ... G Charles Jones (8-1) 2
Don't Shout ... R Rowe (4-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £1.50. Places: £1.10, £1.30, £1.30. DF: £2.10. CSF: £4.88. B Chinn at Bristol. 6l, 4l. Daneston (25-1) 4th. 10 ran.

4.30 THREE COUNTIES HURDLE (Handicap. £2,494: 2m

GREAT LIGHT ch g by Great Nephew – Failing Light (B Atkinson) 6-12-0 ... J Francome (7-1) 1
Churches Green ... M Perrett (1-3 fav) 2
Mon's Beau ... R Goldstein (20-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £4.90. Places. £2.00. DF: £2.60. CSF: £9.55. J Jenkins at Horsham. 5l, 5l. Hatton (7-1) 4th 6 ran.

Ludlow

Going: Good

2.15 BORDER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HURDLE (£883: 2m)

YO-HO b g by Manansingh – Treasure (D Thompson) 5-10-9 ... P A Farrell (20-1) 1
Linpac Gold ... W Hayes (9-2) 2
Lift High ... B Powell (20-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £16.60. Places: £2.50, £1.70, £4.70, £5.50. DF: £19.90. CSF: £89.57. TRICAST: £1,618.48. O Brennan at Newark. Sh hd. nk. Strass Chandelier (20-1) 4th. Nick Bassy (7-2 fav). 18 ran.

2.45 BROMPTON NOVICES' CHASE (6-y-o: £966: 2m)

KING'S JUG b g Lexicon – Cream Jug (David Timothy Ltd) 11-7 ... S Morshead (10-11 fav) 1
Captain Kelly ... P Barton (50-1) 2
Sutton Court ... P Warner (66-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.30. Places: £1.60, £5.80, £4.70. DF: £173.20. CSF: £38.05. Mrs M Rimell at Severn Stoke. 4l, 1l. Dawn Street (8-2) 4th. 14 ran.

3 15 FORBRA GOLD HANDICAP CHASE (£1,897: 3m)

KUMBI b g By No Argument – Rusheen Point (D Lunt) 9-10-6 ... K Doolan (12-1) 1
Laurensun ... Mr R Dunwoody (13-2) 2
Jocks Bond ... N Coleman (50-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £9.50. Places: £2.20, £1.90, £8.50, £2.90. DF: £12.80. CSF: £77.38. TRICAST: £3,329.71. D McCain at Southport. 2½l, 6l. Mount Oliver (20-1) 4th. Mint Streak (100-30 fav. 16 ran.

3.45 CORVEDALE NOVICES HURDLE (4-y-o: £479: 2m)

SEAGRAM ch g by Balak – Llanah (D Barons) 10-10 ... J Frost (4-7 fav) 1
Aisayegh ... C Evans (12-1) 2
Ankerdine Bell ... B Powell (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.20. Places: £1.10, £2.10, £2.60. DF: £11.00. CSF: £9.94. D Barons at *Kingsbridge. 7l, 4l. Tudor Fun* (25-1) 4th. 17 ran. NR: Woodland Retreat.

4.15 ALDON HANDICAP CHASE (£1,419: 2m 4f)

INTOXICATED ch g by Caruso – Well Laced (T Nicholls) 10-10-0 ... M Brennan (33-1) 1
Pizza ... V McKevitt (12-1) 2
Hooded Crow ... P Barton (50-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £22.40. Places: £4.70, £3.30, £18.80. DF: £30.40. CSF: £337.14. Tricast: £16,282.56. T Nicholls at Wolverhampton. 15l, 6l. Fury Boy (12-1) 4th. Shotang (11-4 fav). 15 ran.

4.45 LADBROKE RACING MARES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,315: 3m 1f 160yd)

SEA CARGO ch m by Sea Wolf – Escargot (J Johnson) 9-10-9 ... P Warner (16-1) 1
Free Choice ... Mr R Dunwoody (10-1) 2
Camebelle ... B Powell (7-4 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £14.70. Places: £3.70, £1.50, £1.30. £3.80. DF: £29.00. CSF: £153.74. Tricast: £382.15. J Johnson at Hereford. 1½l, 2½l. Somay (10-1) 4th. 18 ran.

PLACEPOT: £401.05.

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NUJ-Dimbleby

Continued from p 18

of those *newspapers* by TBF. On learning of that the NUJ, who apparently at that stage did not know that TBF was a different company from T. Bailey Forman Ltd with which they were in long-standing dispute, instructed the NUJ journalists employed by Dimbleby to refuse to provide copy to Dimbleby for printing by TBF.

With that instruction, given on October 10, 1983, the NUJ journalists complied. As a result of that refusal which they persisted in, they were suspended from their employment and so remained.

The simplest argument advanced on behalf of the NUJ was that the NUJ journalists' refusal, on the instructions of the NUJ, to provide copy to Dimbleby constituted in itself a trade dispute between workers *and their* employer within the meaning of section 29 of the 1974 Act as amended by section 18 of the 1982 Act.

The simplicity of the argument lay in the fact that it obviated the necessity of entering into the legislative maze created by section 17 of the 1980 Act.

Section 17(2) would exclude from the definition of "secondary action" any inducement of the NUJ journalists to break or interfere with their contracts of employment by Dimbleby, and that would prevent any resulting breach or interference with the performance of any contract between Dimbleby and a third party from giving rise to an action in tort.

There was, however, in the evidence before the judge no vestige of any claim by the NUJ itself or by the NUJ journalists that their current contracts of employment by Dimbleby – and it was only their current contracts that could be relevant to that argument – contained a term entitling them to refuse to comply with instructions given to them by Dimbleby to provide copy of the kind that they were employed to obtain, if they *received instructions* to the contrary from the NUJ.

Indeed, it passed beyond the bounds of credibility that any responsible newspaper proprietor would agree to such a term.

The evidence that was before the judge made it perfectly clear that the NUJ journalists acknowledged that by refusing to provide copy for the Dimbleby newspapers so long as they were to be printed by TBF they were breaking their contracts, albeit they were doing so reluctantly upon the instructions, enforceable by disciplinary sanctions, that had been given to them by the NUJ.

But for the fact that, contrary to the unanimous opinion of the Court of Appeal, the judge himself appeared to have thought that there was a trade dispute between *Dimbleby and the NUJ as to the* terms and conditions of employment by Dimbleby of the NUJ journalists his Lordship would not have thought that on that issue the evidence before the judge raised any arguable question to be tried; but having regard (as section 17(2) of the 1974 Act commanded) to the likelihood of the NUJ's succeeding in that *particular defence* at the trial, his Lordship agreed with the Court of Appeal that the likelihood was minimal.

Their Lordships were also invited to consider an alternative ground on *which* it was submitted that there existed a trade dispute between Dimbleby and the NUJ, namely "the allocation of work or the duties of employment between workers or groups of workers" within the meaning of section 29(1)(d) of the 1974 Act; the allocation sought to be relied upon being the allocation between workers employed by Dimbleby Printers Ltd (not Dimbleby *itself*) and workers *employed* by TBF.

That contention did not appear to have been advanced on behalf of the NUJ before either the judge or the Court of Appeal. Even if an argument to that effect could have been advanced with any degree of plausibility before the amendment of section 29 of the 1974 Act by section 18 of the 1982 Act, all vestige of plausibility was removed by the amended definitions of "trade dispute" and "worker" found in subsections (2) and (6).

The effect of section 18(2) was to redefine "*trade dispute*" as a dispute between workers and their employer wholly "or mainly related to" one or more of the matters listed in section 29(1). Section 18(6), so far as relevant, provided that " 'worker' in relation to a trade dispute with an employer means a worker employed by that employer".

So allocation of work or duties of employment between workers or groups of workers as a possible subject of a trade dispute was now limited to demarcation issues between workers or groups of workers employed by the same *employer. The likelihood of the* NUJ succeeding in that particular defence was nil.

It was not now disputed that in October 1983 there was still in existence a trade dispute between the NUJ and T. Bailey Forman. That had the consequence that it became necessary to apply the four-stage process of examination of the facts in evidence before the judge which, according to the analysis of the section by their Lordships' House *in Merkur Island Shipping Corpn v Laughton* ([1983] 2 AC 570) was called for by section 17 of the 1980 Act.

Upon the issues that were involved in that four-stage process the first contention for the NUJ was that the evidence before the judge did not disclose that a failure by Dimbleby to provide copy to be printed by TBF would constitute a breach of any primary obligation of Dimbleby to TBF under the oral printing contract.

It was the fact that the particulars of the primary obligations of each party under that contract which were deposed to in the affidavits before the judge were scanty; but since the avowed intention of the NUJ was to prevent the printing contract from being performed at all, the likelihood of the NUJ's succeeding at the trial upon its argument on that issue was small *unless at the trial further evidence* could be adduced to show that the printing contract was not a synallagmatic contract at all but a mere unilateral or "if" contract without any obligations on the part *of Dimbleby as to its duration.*

In any event there was sufficient evidence before the judge of contracts between Dimbleby and various advertisers under which Dimbleby undertook primary obligations to publish advertisements in particular positions in consecutive weekly issues of Dimbleby newspapers extending long beyond October 1983, which would be broken if the NUJ journalists refused to provide the necessary copy for such issues.

Neither the printing contract nor the advertising contracts were contracts of employment; and his Lordship did not think that the evidence before the judge disclosed any perceptible likelihood of a defence by the NUJ upon that ground turning out to be successful at the trial of the action.

Little time needed to be spent upon the argument on behalf of the NUJ, which was purely one of statutory construction, that TBF, although a separate corporate entity *from T. Bailey Forman Ltd* was nevertheless a party to the trade dispute between the NUJ and the latter company.

The reason why English statutory law, and that of all other trading countries, had long permitted the creation of corporations as artificial persons distinct from their individual shareholders and from that of any other corporation even though *the shareholders of both* corporations were identical, was to enable business to be undertaken with limited financial liability in the event of the business proving to be a failure.

The "corporate veil" in the case of companies incorporated under the Companies Act was drawn by statute so provided; but in view of its *raison d'etre* and its consistent *recognition* by the courts since *Salomon v Salomon & Co* ((1897)AC 22) one would expect that any parliamentary intention to pierce the corporate veil would be expressed in clear and unequivocal language.

His Lordship did not wholly exclude the possibility that even in the absence of express words stating that *in specified circumstances* one company, although separately incorporated, was to be treated as sharing the same legal personality of another, a purposive construction of the statute might nevertheless lead inexorably to the conclusion that such must have been the intention of Parliament.

It was argued for the NUJ in the instant case that because TBF and T. Bailey Forman Ltd were operating companies with identical shareholding and were companies of which a single holding company had control, TBF as well as T. Bailey Forman Ltd was an "employer who *is party to the dispute" between the* NUJ and T. Bailey Forman Ltd.

That seemed to be a quite impossible construction to put upon *the phrase "an employer who is a party to the dispute" in the context* in which it appeared in section 17 (3). That subsection was followed immediately by subsection (4) which dealt with secondary action against an "associated employer".

By subsection (7), the definition of the expression "associated employer" in the 1974 Act was adopted for the purposes of section 17 of the 1980 Act. That definition provided that:

"... any two employers are to be treated as associated if one is a company of which the other (directly or indirectly) has control, or if both are companies of which a third person (directly or indirectly) has control; and in this Act 'associated employer' shall be construed accordingly".

TFB was thus an associated employer of T. Bailey Forman Ltd. Section 17(4) read in conjunction with section 17(1)(b), legalised a particular kind of secondary action *if it was directed against an* "associated employer of an employer who is a party to the dispute", although it would be unlawful if it were directed against any other person.

If one were to accept the construction of section 17(3) of the 1980 Act for which the NUJ contended, subsection (4) would be entirely otiose: and if an associated employer were *ipso facto* an "employer who is a party to" the suit, the phrase in subsection 4 would make nonsense

In the passage cited from *American Cyanamid Co v Ethicon Ltd* it was said that it was no part of the court's function on an application for an interlocutory injunction to decide difficult questions of law which called for detailed argument and mature consideration.

The argument that as a matter of statutory construction TBF as an *associated company of T. Bailey* Forman Ltd was "an employer who is a party to the dispute" within the meaning of section 17(3) of the 1980 Act did not raise a question of law which fell within that category.

It was one which their Lordships were justified in disposing of by saying that it was unsustainable.

The same applied to the *argument that Dimbleby* was estopped from denying that the printing contract was entered into with T. Bailey Forman Ltd, because as was alleged by the NUJ when Mr Dimbleby first told the NUJ that he had made arrangements for the printing of the Dimbleby newspapers in Nottingham, he left them with the impression that the contract under which that was to be done was a contract with T. Bailey Forman Ltd.

Any misapprehension under which the NUJ might have originally laboured, however, as to *which company was the party to the* printing contract had been removed before the date when the interlocutory injunctions were granted; so no estoppel, even if there might have been one previously, could still be relied upon then.

At the most, estoppel might go to damages recoverable at the trial for the period before the NUJ discovered the *mistake under* which *they had been labouring* if they proved that the mistake was induced by a *representation* by Dimbleby.

Finally upon the question *whether an appellate court would be* entitled to interfere with the way in which the judge exercised his discretion, his Lordship could not discern in the judge's judgment any misunderstanding of the evidence before him, and although, like the Court of Appeal, his Lordship thought the judge misunderstood the law in thinking that there was any trade dispute in existence *between Dimbleby and* the NUJ or the NUJ journalists at the time when the NUJ was alleged to have induced the journalists to break their current contracts with Dimbleby, the only consequence of *correcting that error of law* was to make the case in favour of the grant of the interlocutory injunctions stronger rather than weaker.

No ground had been shown that would have entitled the Court of Appeal or would entitle their Lordships to interfere with the exercise by the judge of his discretion.

Lord Fraser, Lord Scarman, Lord Bridge and Lord Brandon agreed.

Solicitors: Bindman & Partners, Cameron Markby.

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83 A	Mercedes 380SEL	Lapis blue, blue vel, abs, air con, alloys, cruise, elec seats, 8,000 m	£24,995
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83 Y	Mercedes 280TE	Petrol blue, beige int, anti-lock brakes, r/seat, 14,000 m	£16,995
83 A	Mercedes 250LWB	Midnight blue, blue cloth, elec windows, hlww, rear head rests, 6,000 m	£15,495
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82 X	Mercedes 280TE	Astral silver, blue cloth, elec windows, sunroof, split seat, 33,000 m	£11,295
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82 X	Mercedes 280GE LWB,	Signal red, 4-speed manual, hl grills, wheel arches, radio/stereo, 31,000 m	£8,495
81 X	Mercedes 230E Auto	Signal red, black cloth, sunroof, elec windows, 33,000 m	£7,995
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83 A	Range Rover 4 door Auto	Russet brown, radio/stereo, 2,000 m	£12,595
83 Y	Range Rover 4 door Auto	Russet brown, alloys, alarm, rlst, 13,000 m	£10,995
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AUDI QUATTRO. [illegible]

BMW

320 AUTO, W REG. [illegible]

BMW 320 1980 [illegible]

BMW 316 auto. [illegible]

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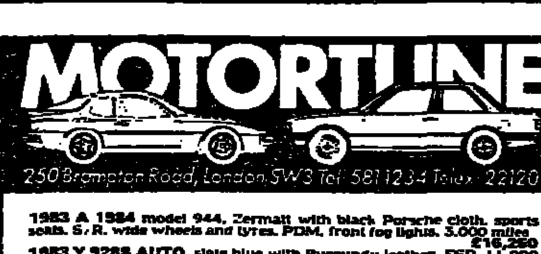
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928 S, 'Y' REG Metallic blue, full spec. As new. 14,000 miles. £23,600 Gaulds of Glasgow 041 882 3381.

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83 Y	Porsche 911 Tbo 3.3, BRG met, mint crm lthr, Dr F sts, 5,600 m	£31,950
83 Y	Porsche 911 Turbo 3.3, Ruby rd, crm lthr, Dr F sts, 14,000m	£29,950
83 Y	Porsche 928S Auto, Quartz met, 2 tone brn lthr, esr, 11,000 m	£26,950
81 W	Porsche 928S Auto, Wine red full beige lthr, esr, 30,000 m	£19,950
80 V	Porsche 928 Auto, Guards red, black check, sunroof, 34,000 m	£13,950
83 Y	Porsche 911SC Spt Cpe, Chiffon, burg lthr, spt st, pdm, 4,000 m	£21,950
83 Y	Porsche 911SC Spt Cpe, White, ble lthr, s-sts, m-stp, 17,000m.	£20,950
83 Y	Porsche 911SC Spt Targa, Zinc met, burg check, pdm, 19,000 m	£20,950
83 Y	Porsche 911SC Tga, Pew met, prn berb, lr spler, pdm, 14,000 m	£18,950
83 A	Porsche 944 Lux, Sapph met, blk pistpe, sr, pdm, cth, 7,000m.	£16,650
83 Y	Porsche 944 Auto, Sapphire met, black chk, slr, cth 1,000 m...	£15,950
83 Y	Porsche 944 Auto, Sienna red, grey bge berb slr, pdm, 7,000 m	£15,450
83 Y	Porsche 944 Lux, Guds rd, blk pistpe, sr, pdm, 215/60, 18,000 m	£14,450
82 Y	Porsche 944 Lux, Sienna rd, bge ber, sr, 215/60, s-sts, 21,000m	£14,250
82 X	Porsche 944 Lux, Blk met, blk ber, s-sts, sr, pdm, 22,000m	£13,950
82 X	Porsche 944 Lux, Sil, blk chk, sr, pdm, 215/60, r-skirt, 24,000 m	£13,950
82 X	Porsche 944 Lux, Lt blue met, black chk, sr, pdm cth, 24,000 m	£13,750
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84 A	Porsche 924 Lux, Ruby rd, gry bge clth, s/st, sr, pdm, st, 7,000m	£12,450
83 Y	Porsche 924 Lux, Guards red, black check, pdm, 11,000 m	£10,950
82 X	Porsche 924 Lux, White, black check, pdm, stereo, 28,000 m	£9,950
82 X	Porsche 924 Lux, Guards red, blk pistpe, pdm, slr, 23,000 m	£9,950
82 X	Porsche 924 Lux, Guards red, black chk, slr, st, pdm, 24,000 m	£9,950
81 W	Porsche 924 Lux Auto, Pewter, beige chk, pdm, slr, st, 13,000 m..	£9,250

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83 Y	Porsche 911 Turbo, Guards red, black lthr, pdm, tint, 2,500 m..	£33,995
83 A	Porsche 911 Turbo, White, blue leather, pdm, 4,500 m	£33,995
83 A	Porsche 928S Auto, Chiffon white, red lthr, full spec, 4,500 m..	£33,995
83 Y	Porsche 928SA, Slate blue, papy piping, e.s. roof, 7,200 m.....	£25,995
81 W	Porsche 928SA, Silver met, blue lthr/berb, ac, 27,500 m	£19,995
80 V	Porsche 928S Auto, Silver, blue vel, elec sts, air, 38,000 m ...	£16,995
83 Y	Porsche 911SC Cab Spt, Pale blue, ble lthr, spt sts, cse, 3,800 m	£19,995
82 Y	Porsche 911SC Tga, Gp White, grey berb, pdm, p7, fogs, 9,900 m	£18,995
82 Y	Porsche 911SC Cpe, Fiord ble met, blue clth, p7, 83mdl, 7,000m	£17,995
82 X	Porsche 911SC Tga Spt, Sil met, ble lthr, s/sts, fog, 23,000 m	£17,995
81 W	Porsche 911SC Cpe Spt, Lt blue met, blue vel, pdm, 18,200 m.	£17,450
78 T	Porsche 911SC Cpe Spt, G.P. white, pdm, spts sts, 10,000 m .	£14,995
84 A	Porsche 944, Ruby red, grey/bge lthr, high spec, spt pk, 3,100 m	£18,495
83 A	Porsche 944, Gds red, grey/bge clth, sr, alloys, pdm, 2,500 m	£18,995
84 A	Porsche 944 Auto, Black, pdm, clh, slr, 300 m	£15,995
83 Y	Porsche 944, Gds rd, blk pistp, pdm 215/60, slshks, 10,300m ...	£14,995
82 Y	Porsche 944, Alp white, pdm, rl, 215/60, 83 mdl, 11,150 m......	£14,995
82 X	Porsche 944, Alpine wte, blk vel pdm, sr, ch, 13,700 m	£14,595
82 Y	Porsche 944 Auto, White, pdm, roof, '83 mdl, 17,900 m	£14,995
82 Y	Porsche 944, Sienna met, bge ber, rl, s/sts, 215/60, 14,100m ...	£13,995
82 X	Porsche 944, Pew met, bge ber, pdm, alarm, s/sts, ch, 20,700m	£13,995
83 Y	Porsche 924 Lux, Black, alloys, roof, alarm, stereo, 13,400 m	£12,450
82 Y	Porsche 924 Lux, White, pdm, rl, ster, l-m stps, 83mdl, 22,600m	£10,750
82 X	Porsche 924 Lux Auto, Gds red, blk pistpe, pdm, rl, rad, 15,900 m.	£9,995
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also on page 34

PERSONAL COLUMNS

THUS SAITH THE LORD of hosts . . . Love the truth and peace. Zechariah 8: 19.

BIRTHS

BENJAMIN. – On 29th February at Redhill General Hospital, to Babette (nee Villanueva) and Deric – a daughter (Emma Louise Clare).

BLAKE – On February 29 at the West London Hospital to Isabel (nee Horovitz) and Jonathan, a daughter.

COHEN. – On 28th February at the Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital to Mary (née Gascoigne) and Peter, a daughter, Sophie Pelagia.

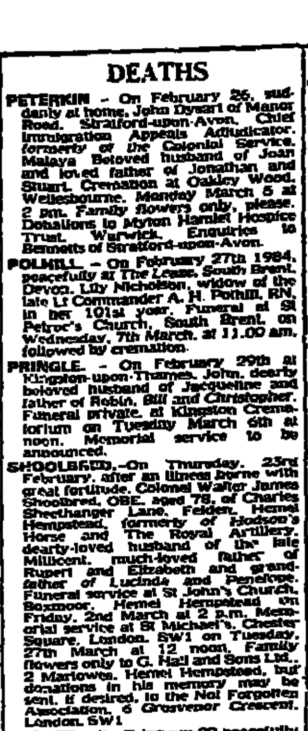
HILDYARD. – To Rupert and Ursula, a daughter on 17th February

JACKSON. – On 29th February, at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, to Angela (nee Greenway) and Francis – a daughter, Sarah Louise

MACKAY – JAMES on February 24th to Miranda and Max, a son, Thomas George.

MASON. – On February 27th, at ...

DEATHS



PETERKIN – On February 26, suddenly at home, John Dysart of Manor Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, Chief Immigration Appeals Adjudicator, formerly of the Colonial Service, Malaya. Beloved husband of Joan and loved father of Jonathan and Stuart. Cremation at Oakley Wood, Wellesbourne, Monday March 5 at 2 pm. Family flowers only, please. Donations to Myton Hamlet Hospice Trust, Warwick. Enquiries to Bennetts of Stratford-upon-Avon.

POLHILL. – On February 27th 1984, peacefully at The Lease, South Brent, Devon, Lily Nicholson, widow of the late Lt Commander A. H. Polhill, RN, in her 101st year. Funeral at St Petroc's Church, South Brent, on Wednesday, 7th March, at 11.00 am, followed by cremation.

PRINGLE. – On February 29th at Kingston-upon-Thames, John, dearly beloved husband of Jacqueline and father of Robin, Bill and Christopher. Funeral private, at Kingston Crematorium on Tuesday March 6th at noon. Memorial service to be announced.

SHOOLBRED. – On Thursday, 23rd February, after an illness borne with great fortitude, Colonel Walter James Shoolbred, OBE, aged 78, of Charles Sheethanger Lane, Felden, Hemel Hempstead, formerly of Hodson's Horse and The Royal Artillery, dearly-loved husband of the late Millicent, much-loved father of Rupert and Elizabeth and grandfather of Lucinda and Penelope. Funeral service at St John's Church, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead on Friday, 2nd March at 2 p.m. Memorial service at St Michael's, Chester Square, London, SW1 on Tuesday, 27th March at 12 noon. Family flowers only to G. Hall and Sons Ltd., 2 Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, but donations in his memory may be sent, if desired, to the Not Forgotten Association, 6 Grosvenor Crescent, London, SW1

TAYLER – On February 29 peacefully in Allblasters Nursing Home, Mary Christine of Farnfold, Wisborough Green. Very sadly missed by members of her family and her many close friends. Funeral service at St Peter ad Vincula Parish Church, Wisborough Green, on Tuesday March 6 at 2.15 pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but donations may be sent to the National Society for Cancer Relief, 30 Dorset Square, London NW1

TOLKIEN, MICHAEL HILARY REVEL – 27th February. Passed away courageously after a long and painful illness. Will be greatly missed by his son Michael and daughter Joanna, his brothers Christopher and John and sister Priscilla, his nephew Simon and his dear friends Joan and John Isherwood. Requiem mass at St ...

MEMORIAL SERVICES

IN MEMORIAM

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CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

LEGAL NOTICES

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TONIGHT QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL at 7.45 NORTHERN SINFONIA Beethoven Violin concerto, soloist IDA HAENDEL Schoenberg 'Verklaerte Nacht', conductor DAVID ZINMAN. Tickets £1.50 to £5 at the door

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Fri. 9	8.00 pm	SOUTHAMPTON, Solent Suite 0703-33601
Sun. 11	7.45 pm	COVENTRY, Warwick Un. Arts Centre 0203-417417
Wed. 14	8.00 pm	LLANTWIT MAJOR, St Donat's Arts Centre 04465-2151
Fri. 16	8.00 pm	KENDALL, Brewery Arts Centre 0539-25133
Sat. 17	8.00 pm	LEICESTER, Phoenix Arts 0533-554854
Sun. 18	8.00 pm	BIRMINGHAM, Strathallan Hotel 021-559 6265

Further information from Contemporary Music Network, Arts Council of Great Britain, 105 Piccadilly, London W1. 01-629 9495

Car Buyer's Guide

also on page 33

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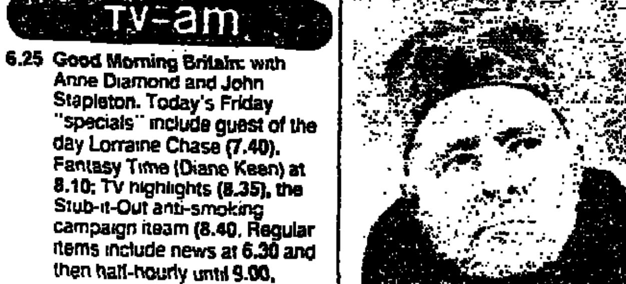
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle



BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM: News and information that every TV owner can receive.

6.30 Breakfast Time: with Selina Scott, Mike Smith. Today's specials include gardening advice from Alan Titchmarsh (7.30-7.45) pop news (same time slot) and food and cookery item (8.30-9.00). Regular items include news at 6.30, then half-hourly until 8.30, regional news at 6.45, then half-hourly until 8.15,. Morning papers review at 7.18 and 8.18; and sport at 6.40 and 7.40.

9.00 In Deepest Britain: Steam and Hedgerow. Springtime in a mid-Wales valley brings out an ecologist, ornithologist and wildlife artist: **9.30 Ceefax pages; 10.30 Play School; 10.55 Play Ideas; 11.05 Ceefax pages.**

12.30 News After Noon; 12.57 Financial Report. And sub-titled news.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: the lunchtime music and chat show from a foyer-studio; **1.45 Bagpuss; 2.00 Cartoons.**

2.15 Racing from Newbury: Live coverage of the 2.30, 3.00 (Arkell Brewery Handicap Steeplechase) and 3.30 races.

3.50 Magic Roundabout (r); **3.55 Play School: It's Friday; 4.20 Laurel and Hardy:** not the real thing, just a cartoon; **4.25 Jackanory:** Pippa Guard reads from Susan Coolidge's What Katy Did; **4.40 Wildtrack:** Wildlife magazine, including the naming of the winner of the programme's Bird Brain of Britain contest; **5.05 Grange Hill:** Final episode. More about the school merger dance (Ceefax titles, page 170) **5.35 The Wombles.**

5.40 Sixty Minutes: The line-up is: 5.40 news, 5.54 weather; 5.55 regional magazines, 6.38 closing headlines

6.40 Doctor Who: Final episode of Planet of Fire. With Peter Davison (Ceefax titles, page 170).

7.05 The Superstars: The British Men's Championship, from RAF Cosford. There are familiar faces among the competitors, including tennis player John Lloyd, Rugby Union international Peter Wheeler, show jumping champion Robert Smith, and world record-holder in the 4 x 800 metres relay Gary Cook.

7.55 Sharon and Elsie: Penultimate episode in this comedy series set in a printing works. A philanderer is risking a violent reaction from the husband of the girl whom he fancies with Brigit Forsyth, Janette Beverley and John Landry.

8.20 We Got it Made: American comedy series.

8.45 Points of View: Fifteen minutes of viewers letters, commented on by Barry Took.

9.00 News: with John Humphrys.

9.25 Remington Steele: Stephanie Zimbalist and Pierce Brosnan to the rescue of a trouble-hit television news station.

10.15 The Further Adventures of Lucky Jim: Enn Reitel plays Kingsley Amis's hapless hero (r).

10.45 News headlines. And weather.

10.50 Film: Sweet Smell of Success (1957) Searing exposee of gutter-press tactics on Broadway, with power-crazed columnist Burt Lancaster hiring an unprincipled press agent (Tony Curtis) to wreck his sister's love affair with a jazz musician. Co-starring Susan Harrison, Marty Milner and Sam Levene directed by Alexander Mackendrick, with a first-rate screen play from Clifford Odets and Ernest Lehman. Ends at 12.30am.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Anne Diamond and John Stapleton. Today's Friday "specials" include guest of the day Lorraine Chase (7.40). Fantasy Time (Diane Keen) at 8.10; TV highlights (8.35), the Stub-it-Out anti-smoking campaign iteam (8.40. Regular items include news at 6.30 and then half-hourly until 9.00, sport (6.35, and 7.35)

ITV / LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines; 9.30 For Schools: The line-up is: 9.30 Your Living Body (breathing); 9.47 On the National Health; 10.43 Facing up to unemployment; 11.05 A special kind of zoo; 11.22 Picture Box: fire 11.39 History in Action: The Red Tsar.

12.00 Jamie and the Magic Torch: for the toddlers (r); **12.10 Rainbow** (repeated at 4.00); **12.30 Lifeskills:** Behavioural psychologist Dr Robert Sharpe tells us how to be social winners.

1.00 News from ITN; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 About Britain: A film about the honorary police force on the island of Jersey

2.00 Just our Luck: comedy series about a weather man and his genie friend.

2.30 Snooker: Live coverage of the Yamaha Keyboards International Masters, from Derby.

3.30 Sons and Daughters: Australian family drama serial.

4.00 Children's ITV: with Roland Rat Rainbow (r); **4.20 Batfink:** cartoon; **4.25 Sooty:** Soo leaves home; **4.50 Freetime:** A visit to the Steam Fare at Stourpaine, Dorset; plus the Freetime Computer Challenge contest. **5.15 The Young Doctor.**

5.45 News; 6.00 The 6 o'clock Show: with Michael Aspel.

7.00 The Zodiac Game: Astrological fun and games, with Tom O'Connor as MC. The competing celebrities are Patricia Brake, Jess Conrad and Sharron Davies.

7.30 Survival Special: Space for Wildlife. A film about the unique wildlife reserve establish at the Kennedy Space Centre, in the shadow of the space shuttle launch site (see Choice).

8.30 The Other 'Arf: Having inherited a stately home, former politician Charles (John Standing) is now short of the money to maintain it. With Lorraine Chase as his cockney wife.

9.00 Killer Contract: Thriller, with Edward Woodward as the business tycoon whose daughter is kidnapped just as he is to open a new high technology factory. With Kat Harper and Wanda Ventham.

10.00 News at Ten. Followed by Thames news headlines.

10.30 The London Programme: Prostitution in London. Why Camden borough is considering introducing a social rehabilitation scheme that, in Sweden, has significantly reduced the level of street prostitution.

11.00 Snooker: The semi-finals of the Yamaha Keyboards International Masters.

12.15 South of Watford: A close look at rock video. How the tapes are made. And the question is posed: are the pictures becoming more important than the music?

12.45 Dragnet: A husband is suspected of his wife's murder. With Jack Webb as Sergeant Joe Friday. Followed by the Rev Allan G Scott's Night Thoughts.



Alec McCowen: The World Walk (BBC 2, 10.05pm)

CHOICE

● THE WORLD WALK (BBC 2, 10.05pm), Jonathan Smith's play about Hitler's architect and arms minister, Albert Speer, and his incarceration in Spandau prison, began life as a work for radio. You would not suspect it. The camera worms its way into Speer's brain, thence into his conscience, just as remorselessly as the studio microphone did. The director, Sarah Hellings, simply has not missed a trick. Speers's diaries contain serious gaps when they touch on the degree of his conscious culpability for crimes against humanity. Mr Smith has attempted to fill in some of those gaps. What is clear from his play is that he is no less skilled as an historical theorist than he is as a dramatist. There will, presumably, be those who will accuse him of taking the easy way out by confronting Speer with one of his victims, a former slave labourer, now a medical orderly at Spandau. But the philosophical argument about whether the man who holds the ladder (Speer) is as much to blame for the outcome as the thief (Hitler/Himmler/Eichmann) who gets into the house and commits murder there, would have been far less incisive if the ladder-holder alone had been given the chance to put his case.

● "All this technical wizardry is lost on the wildlife" is the most unworthy of several anthropomorphic thoughts that tarnish the commentary in tonight's visually magnificent documentary SPACE FOR WILDLIFE (ITV, 7.30pm). And yet, in essence, this is exactly what the film is about – birds and animals going about their daily affairs while, a mile or so away, the American space shuttle roars off its launching pad at Cape Canaveral. Not a flicker in the eye of the osprey in her nest. The loggerhead sea-turtle goes on laying eggs. And the gopher tortoise stays in low gear as the giant shuttle transporter heaves its way towards it along the runway. "Where Man has reached for the stars, he has left a wide space for wild life" is how the commentary puts it, redundantly. There is visual confirmation as the alligator that has ignored the feverish activity around the Vehicle Assembly Building, pounces on a raccoon and swallows it whole.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University (until 8.10. **9.00 Pages from Ceefax; 9.15** Daytime on Two (until 2.50). The line-up is: **9.08** Electronics in Action; **9.30** Everyday Science; **9.52** The Boy from Space (6); **10.15** Mathscore One; **10.30** Pages from Ceefax; **11.00** The History Trail (village improvers); **11.22** Moral Education (sacred books); **11.44** Going to Work (market town); **12.05** Making the Most of the Micro; **12.30** Computers in Control (Chicago Robotics Exhibition); **12.55** Speak for Yourself.

1.20 Pages from Ceefax; 1.38 Around Scotland (airport life); **2.01** The Guardian Angels; **2.30** language in Action; **2.50** Pages from Ceefax.

5.05 Weekend Outlook: Open University trailers, including Modern Art: Manet and Blake, the Artist; **5.10 Utopia: Society without the State.** Open University film about experiments in community living (r).

5.35 News: with sub titles for the hard of hearing.

5.40 Film: Mouse on the Moon (1963) Ruritanian farce starring Margaret Rutherford as the Grand Duchess Gloriana, and Ron Moody as her prime minister who, when it is discovered that exploding wine makes excellent rocket fuel, decides that someone from the Grand Duchy will be the first man on the Moon. With Terry Thomas and Bernard Cribbins. Directed by Richard Lester.

7.00 ORS 84: With Ultravox, Willie Williams (debut) and Dead or Alive.

7.45 The World About Us: Sport Fishing Down Under. The producer of this documentary, Chris Powell, says that Australian sport-fishing sequences in his film are some of the most drmatic ever filmed. The ace fisherman is Malcolm Florence.

8.35 Gardener's World: Graham Rose and Roy Lancaster explore the treasures of Hidcote Manor in Gloucestershire, where the gentle shades of autumn abound (Ceefax, page 170).

9.00 M*A*S*H: The 4077th look to a bowling tournament against a neighbouring Marine unit to reverse their run of sporting defeats. But there is a professional in the rival team.

9.25 Whicker. The theme tonight: style and fashion. Guests include Molly Parkin and Malcolm McLaren.

10.05 The World Walk: Jonathan Smith's play about the captive Albert Speer played by Alec McCowen. With Norman Rodway and Nigel Stock (see Choice).

10.50 Newsnight.

11.35 Whistle Test: with Nena, Flat Lux and the Electro-Synthesisier chart.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Wayne and Shuster: Canadian-made comedy series. Part one of a Jekyll and Hyde take-off in which the evil in Dr Jekyll is personified in the shape of Mrs Hyde.

5.30 The Tube: includes a feature on Michael Jackson and the making of his remarkable 15-minute *Thriller* video. Also appearing are Bananarama, Thomas Dolby, Tom Waits, Scott Walker and Virgin Dance.

7.00 Channel Four News. With Peter Sissons in the presenter's chair. Also weather for the weekend.

7.30 Right to Reply: Channel Four viewers get a chance to say what they think about the channel's output. The studio link-man is Gus Macdonald. Tonight: accusations about sexy dancing in The Tube.

8.00 A Week in Politics: with Peter Jay. Labour politicians are asked how the Chesterfield by-election result will affect the balance of power in the party. Also, the business world's relationship with Whitehall.

8.40 What the Papers Say: The headlines (and what goes underneath them) are studied tonight by the freelance journalist Christopher Hird.

9.00 Dream Stuffing: Penultimate instalment of this comedy series about flatmates Jude and Mo (Rachel Weaver and Amanda Symonds) who, tonight, are left holding the baby – literally.

9.30 The Lady is a Tramp: Having failed to get a hand-out from the DHSS, Old Pat (Patricia Hayes) and Lanky Pat (Pat Coombs) tackle the local town hall, trying to get a home improvement grant for their van.

10.00 Cheers: Comedy series, set in a Boston bar. A customer (Charles Bouvier) has a problem that might put a permanent end to his blossoming relationship with Carla (Rhea Perlman).

10.30 Well Being: Is Marriage Bad for your Health? How to take some of the heart-ache out of divorce. And an assessment of the alternative to marriage – being simply and emotionally self-sufficient. Those interviewed include Irma Kurtz, "agony aunt" on *Cosmopolitan* magazine and John Harper, co-author of a recent study into divorce among men.

11.15 Film: The Four Just Men (1939) British film version of the Edgar Wallace thriller, with Hugh Sinclair, Griffith Jones, Francis L Sullivan and Frank Lawton as the eponymous heroes who combine to save the British Empire from destruction at the hands of foreign agents led by a British MP. With Anna Lee and Alan Napier. Director: Walter Forde. Ends at 12.50am.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; Weather.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50 Your Letters. 8.57 Weather.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs Actor Michael York is the castaway (r).
9.45 Feedback with Simon Bates.
10.00 News; Science Now.
10.30 Morning Story: 'Shining Armour' by Andy Smith. Read by the author.
10.45 Daily Service. Women's World Day of Prayer from Manchester.
11.00 News; Travel; You The Jury. Current issues are put on trial, with Geoffrey Robertson as chairman (r).
11.48 Natural Selection.
12.00 News; You And Yours.
12.27 My Music. A new series of the musical panel game with John Amis, Frank Muir, Ian Wallace and Denis Norden trying to answer Steve Race's questions. 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World At One: News.
1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Cardiff. Today's edition includes items in which a teacher talks about adventure holidays; and Sister Peggie talks about her nursing career. She can look back to the days when leeches were in use.
3.00 News; Kipps "The Story of a Simple Soul" by H. G. Wells, dramatized in five parts (2). Mark Straker plays the title role, and Paul Daneman is H. G. Wells.
4.00 News; Just After Four. The joys of sailing, by Francis Wood.
4.10 War And Peace In Our Time. Geoffrey Stern examines the persistence of warfare (3) The Nigerian Civil War.
4.40 Story Time: "Vera" by Elizabeth Von Arnium (5) Read by June Barrie.
5.00 PM:News Magazine 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News.
6.30 Going Places. The world of transport and travel.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. Margaret Howard's programme highlights.
8.10 The week in Synod with Rosemary Harell.
8.30 Any Questions? from Leeds, with Clive Thornton, the Rt Rev Bill Westwood, Harry Ognall and Sheila McKechnie.
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Angus McDermid in the BBC Sound Archives.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine, introducted by Sheridan Morley. Includes a review of The Mikado at the Old Vic in London.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: 'The Lost Domain' by Alain-Fournier (15). Read by Michael Williams.
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.00 Today in Parliament.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight
11.30 Week Ending. A satirical review.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Close. Shipping Forecast.
England: VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools: 1.55-2.00pm Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools: 5.50-5.55 PM (continued) 11.00-12.00 Study on 4 in Schools Night-Time Broadcasting: 12.30 Choices.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. Ireland's A London Overture; Mozart's Sehnsucht nach dem Fruhlinge K 596 (Jill Gomez, soprano). Delius's A Song of Summer; Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, op posth – Roberto Michelucci and I Musici† 8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Telemann's Overture à 5, for horns and strings; Rachmaninov's Vocalise Op 34 No 14 (Soderstrom / Ashkenazy); Vaughan Williams's Romance for harmonica and strings (Reilly and Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields) and Rameau's Suite No 2 (Le Temple de la Gloire)† 9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Bach. The Musica Antiqua Cologne with Reinhard Goebel, violin, play the Musical Offering†
10.00 Haydn: the Trios in D (H XV 16) and in G (H XV 15)†
10.40 Bournemouth Sinfonietta: Derak Bourgeois's overture The Green Dragon; Brahms's Serenade in A, Op 16; and Dvorak's Czech Suite†
11.45 Op One: Peter Wallfisch (piano) plays Zemlinsky's Landliche Tanze; Shostakovich's Three Fantastic Dances; and Berg's Sonata†
12.20 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra: Concert. Part one. With Ralph Kirschbaum (cello). Britten's overture The Building of the House, and Elgar's Cello Concerto, Op 85† 1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents: Foreign radio broadcasts, monitored by the BBC.
1.20 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra; part two. Brahms's Symphony No 2†
2.10 Ravel, Schubert and Chabrier: song recital by Susan Kesler (mezzo) with Geoffrey Parsons at the piano. Works include Schubert's Der Konig in Thule; Sylvia, and Chabrier's Animal Songs†
2.55 Chausson: Kyung Wha Chung (violin) and the Royal Phil play the Poème, Op 25†
3.15 Music for Harpsichord by Rameau: recital by Virginia Black. The works include L'Egyptienne; L'Enharmonique; La Poule, and Les Trois Mains†
4.00 Choral Evensong: from Durham Cathedral. Master of Choristers and Organist is Richard Lloyd† 4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: David Hoult presents a programme of music from England, Austria and Germany†
6.30 Music for Guitar: Paul Galbraith plays works by Weiss and Ponce (Variations and Fugue on Folia de Espana)†
7.00 Sibelius: Moscow Radio Symph Orch play the Symph No 6†
7.30 Felicity Lott and Graham Johnson. Recital, part one. The soprano and her accompanist in a programme of works by Purcell, Brahms and Wolf. Part one. Direct from the Broadcasting Centre, Birmingham†
8.15 Poetry Now: Gillian Clarke introduces poems by poets including Charles Boyle, Jean Earle, Madeline Mayne and Charles Tomlinson.
8.35 Felicity Lott and Graham Johnson: recital. Part two. Works by Ravel, Roussel, and Walton (A Song for the Lord Mayor's Table)†
9.20 The Electron at the End of the Universe: Mike Berry, Professor of Physics at the University of Bristol in conversation with Professor Lewis Wolpert, of the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, London.
9.50 Schubert: the Melos Quartet of Stuttgart play the Quartet in G, D 887†
10.35 Niels Viggo Bentzon: Ronald Stevenson plays the Danish composer's Sonata No 5, Op 77. We also hear Grieg's Slatter Nos 4, 6, 13, 14 and 16, Op 72†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.
VHF only: Open University. 6.15 am Sociology of Religion; 6.35-6.55 Pope's Essay on Man; 11.20 pm Health Choices: Making it Better; 11.40-12.00 Popular Art.
Medium Wave Only: 8.20 am-12.00 Cricket: Pakistan versus England.

Radio 2

4.00 am Bill Rennells.† 5.30 Ray Moore† incl 6.02 Cricket. 7.30 Terry Wogan† incl 8.31 Racing Bulletin. 9.02 Cricket. 10.00 Jimmy Young† incl 10.02 Cricket; 11.02 Cricket. 12.00 pm Steve Jones† incl 12.02 Cricket: 1.05 Sport. 2.00 Gloria Hunniford† incl 2.02; 3.02 Sport. 3.30 Music All The Way† 4.00 David Hamilton† incl 4.02; 4.05 Sport. 6.00 John Dunn† incl 6.02 Sport; 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 7.30 Male Voice Choir Competition. The second round. Eight choirs compete in this annual knock-out competition† 8.15 Friday Night is Music Night direct from the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London. With soloists Sandra Dugdale and Forbes Robinson† 9.30 Old Stagers. The fourth of 10 programmes with Brian Haines. (4) Jack Buchanan. 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Best of Bentine (last in series). 10.30 Sounds of the North. Mike Harding presents Sounds of Industrial Yorkshire. 11.00 Stuart Hall. incl (stereo from midnight) 1.00 Jean Challis presents Nightride† 3.00-4.00 Night Owls with Dave Gelly†

Radio 1

6.00 am Gary Davies. 7.00 Adrian John. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, incl 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Gary Davies. 4.30 Select-a-Disc with Janice Long. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance (stereo from 10.00)
VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00 am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Rock Back the Clock. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Billy Budd. 8.30 Women of The World. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 A New Life in a New World. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Sarah and Company. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four hours. 8.15 Music Now. 9.45 Billy Budd. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 The Doctors. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Classical Record Review. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 The Seven Deadly Sins. 3.50 Recording of the Week. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Let There Be Drums. 5.45 The World Today.
All times in GMT

BBC 1 Wales 12.57-1.00pm News 3.48-3.50 News 5.55 (Part of sixty minutes) Wales today. 9.25-10.15 Wales! Wales? (Dai Smith presents a fresh analysis of the Welsh) 10.15-10.30 Sportfolio 10.30-11.20 Remington Steele. 11.20-11.21 News 11.21-12.55am Film: 'Endless Night' (1972) (Hayley Mills). Scotland 12.55-1.00pm News 5.55 (Part of Sixty minutes) Scotland: sixty minutes. 9.25-9.55 Agenda. 9.55-10.42 Friday Night With Douge Donnelly 10.42-10.45 News 10.45-11.30 Remington Steele 11.30-1.10am Film: 'Cannon for Cordoba' (1970) (George Peppard). Northern Ireland 12.57-1.00pm News 3.48-3.50 News 5.55 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 Northern Ireland. 10.50-12.25am Film: 'Endless Night' (1972) (Hayley Mills). 12.25 Northern Ireland. England NORTH-EAST only: 12.00-12.30pm North Country. 5.55pm (Part of Sixty Minutes). 10.15 EAST – Weekend. MIDLANDS – Midlands Tonight. NORTH – Deadly Virtues. NORTH EAST – Coast To Coast. NORTH WEST – Bonny Bnd. SOUTH – Southern Life: 'Thanks for the Memory' (motor rally from Bournemouth to Bath) SOUTH WEST – Country Scene. WEST – Woman and Waugh. 12.30am Close.

S4C Starts 2.00pm Ffenestri. 2.20 Stori Sbri. 2.35 Hyn o Fyd. 2.55 Jack's Game. ys 3.20 Making of Britain. 3.50 Gardener's Calendar 4.15 Chips Comic. 4.45 Lan Lofft. 5.00 Sbri Celwydd Golau. 5.30 The Tube. 7.00 Newyddion Sarth. 7.35 Edrych Trwy y Camerau. 8.00 Pobol y Cwm. 8.30 Y Byd Yn El Le. 9.15 Cheers. 9.45 Soap. 10.15 Boy in the Bush. 11.10 Lady is a Tramp. 11.35 Stand Your Ground

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

TSW As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Walters. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.34 Snooker. 12.15am Postscript, Closedown.

HTV WEST As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Laverne and Shirley. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors, 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi. 6.00 News. 6.30-70 Problems. 10.30 Good Neighbour Show. 11.00 Snooker. 12.15am Closedown.

HTV WALES As London except: 11.05am-11.20 About Wales. 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Showbizz.

ANGLIA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Albert Carter: Comedy. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30-11.05 Cross Question. 12.15am. Sea Pictures, Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-2.30 At Ease. 3.30-4.00 One of the Boys. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 10.30 Way and Means. 11.00-11.05 Late Call. 12.15 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25am-9.30 First Thing. 12.30pm-1.00 News. 2.00-2.30 Strange but True. 3.40-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Harlem Globetrotters. 6.00-7.00North Tonight. 10.30 Country Focus. 11.00 Snooker. 12.15am News, Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 2.00-2.30 Walters. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 What's On Where. 12.15 am Closedown

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Walters. 5.15-5.45 Zodiac Game. 6.00 Calendar. 7.00-7.30 Give Us a Clue. 10.30 Snooker. 12.15am Newhart.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Made Simple. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.30 England Their England. 6.00 News. 7.00-7.30 Give Us a Clue. 10.30 Snooker. 12.15am Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Preview. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Newhart. 12.15am News, Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25 am-9.30 Day Ahead. 11.39-12.00 Pieces of Eight. 12.30 pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.00-2.30 Paint Along With Nancy. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.45-7.00 Advice. 10.30 Witness 10.35-11.05 Sportscast. 12.15 am News, Closedown.

TVS as London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20 News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 About Britain 2.05 Old Wives Remedies. 2.10-2.30 Canon in the Kitchen. 3.30-4.00 That's Hollywood.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 On the Market. 2.00-2.30 Patterns 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Zodiac Game. 6.00 News. 6.05 Weekend. 7.00-7.30 Give Us A Clue. 10.30 Snooker. 12.15am Film: Panic in Echo Park (Dorian Harewood). 1.40 Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Crafts Made Simple. 1.20-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.00-2.30 Lost Kingdoms. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 News. 6.02 Zodiac Game. 6.30 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Give Us A Clue. 12.15 am Portrait of a Legend. 12.45 Three's Company, Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95. LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Entertainments

Synod backs bishops' plan on remarriage

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The General Synod of the Church of England is to try again to find acceptable proposals for remarrying divorced people in church.

It decided yesteday that the rejection and withdrawal of its earlier proposals were not fatal to the principle that some divorced people should be allowed a church wedding.

The House of Bishops will now prepare a detailed scheme to replace the ill-fated Option G proposals, and in the longer term there will be a study of the present strained relationship between church and state over marriage.

The synod resolved by substantial majorities in each of its three houses, that the House of Bishops, should draft a church regulation which would:



The Bishop of Birmingham (left) and Sir William van Straubenzee

- Place the responsibility for decisions in cases of remarriage upon the diocesan bishop in consultation with the parish priest.
- Permit the possibility of appropriate cases being referred to a diocesan panel of advisers, with the parties having a right to appeal to the panel.
- Be "more evidently pastoral" in its application and
- Set out clearly agreed guidelines for the use of bishops, clergy, and the panels.

The new proposals were put *together in the light of* widespread opposition to Option G from the clergy.

It quickly became apparent that the two thirds of the synod previously in favour of Option G had transferred allegiance to the new proposals.

An alternative, behind which all the opponents of remarriage in principle rallied was proposed by the Bishop of Salisbury, Dr John Baker. It was defeated by 126 votes to 295.

The proposal of the House of Bishops was presented by the Bishop of Winchester, Dr John Taylor, who asked the synod to say whether it wanted a fresh attempt to modify the marriage discipline.

Consultations with the clergy had pointed to aspects of the old proposals which could be simplifeid. He said, however: "Let us not pretend that any scheme can be devised which will wholly satisfy those who are looking for a modification of our existing marriage discipline regarding divorced persons, and those who want no change."

He was strongly supported by Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who said: "it has always been my hope that we could combine the highest doctrine of marriage as a permanent and lifelong relationship with a confident generosity towards those whose marriages have irretrievably broken down in any genuine desire they have to build out of failure and penitence, and to enter into a true Christian marriage.

"I believe this is not unbiblical, untheological or unprecendented in the Christion tradition," he declared.

The proposal was strongly opposed by Dr Graham Leonard, the Bishop of London. He said that the church had made a mistake with Option G, and found itself in a cul de sac.

The church had failed to be faithful to the teaching of Christ, and equally had failed to meet the needs of Britain at this time. To offer repetition of the marriage service and its vows "will inevitably be taken by the country at large with deep disappointment and with sadness if not with anger, as no more than the church coming along to endorse what the state had done".

The Bishop of Salisbury, also objecting to the proposals said that Option G had fallen into the trap of trying to join together "what logic, unfortunately, will always put asunder".

The bishops' new suggestions would repeat that mistake, he said.

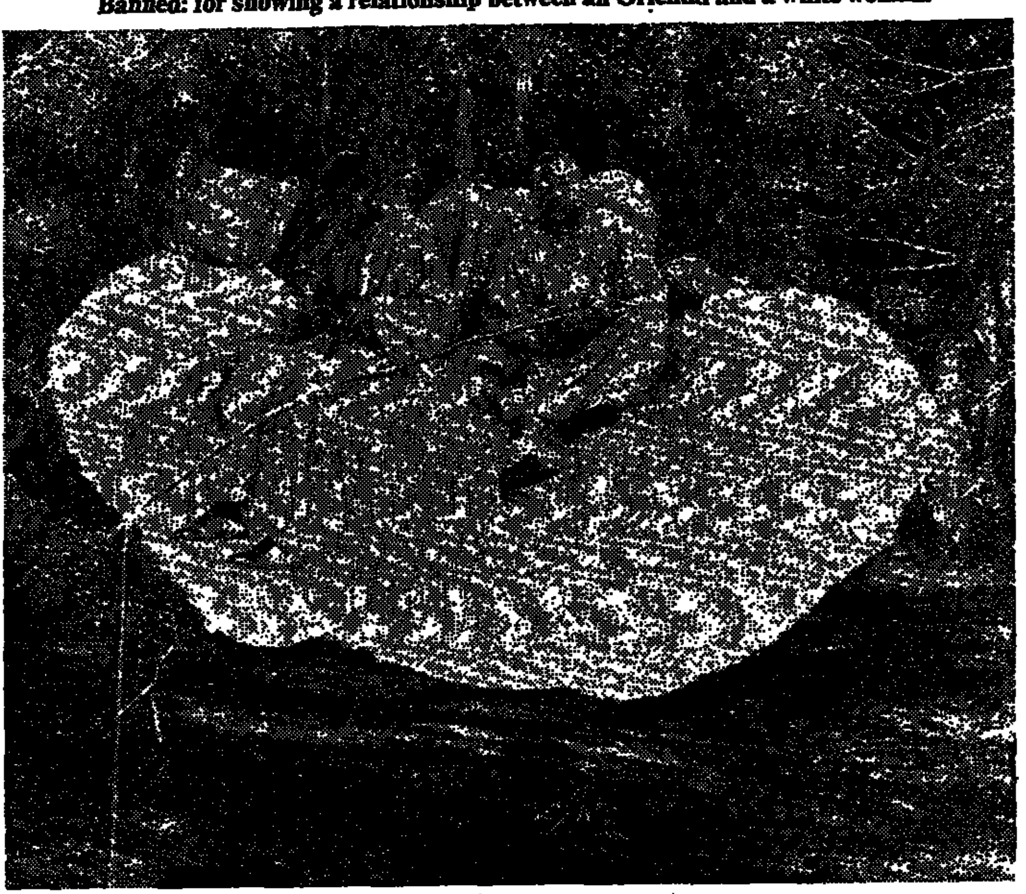
Sir William van Straubenzee, Conservative MP for Woking and Second Church Estates Commissioner, said that would require a change in the law to separate the church's administration of marriage from the civil law of marriage.

There were repeated attempts to reverse the synod's standing commitment of find some way of remarrying divorcees in appropriate circumstances.

What the 1930s censors cut...



Banned: for showing a relationship between an Oriental and a white woman.



Banned: for its representation of an all-Negro Heaven.

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

The secrets of Britain's film censors of the 1930s will finally become public tonight. The opinions of Colonel J. C. Hanna, a retired army officer and Miss N Shortt, a shelterd upper-class spinster in her thirties were paramount in deciding what went on the British cinema screen.

As script examiners to the British Board of Film Censors, they set the standard of cinema taste in tones which seem somewhat risible today.

Faced with a script about the lustful attentions of a Malayan rajah to a white women saddled with a dipsomaniac fiancé, Colonel *Hanna* thundered: "The sight of a white man drifting to degradation through drink in native surroundings is always unpleasant and the amorous desire of a native to get possession of a white women is almost, if not quite, a prohibitive theme." The film was never made.

Miss Shortt's blue pencil was just as cutting. Faced with a script from Gaumont, she ordered: "Delete 'masochist' (I cannot remember what this means), venery, androgynous, aphrodisical, libidinous, sensual, thrill, flesh-burning orgies, belly action, cheap piker, goddam, bum, harlot." The film *Storm in a Teacup* got off more lightly. "Delete 'nuts', 'pansy-faced' and close-up of the Speaker of the Commons."

The secret fears of the censors were found in the archives of the British Film Institute, which has turned them into a dramatized presentation of censoship which is previewed at the National Film *Theatre tonight, with clips of* some of the banned scenes.

The censors objected vehemently to the making of a film of Walter Greenwood's novel *Love on the Dole. "This is* a very sordid story in very sordid surroundings", Colonel Hanna observed.

The film was eventually made during the war, but many titles released in America never passed the board's scrutiny. *The Bitter Tea of General Yen* (1932) was banned becaused it showed a relationship between an Oriental and a white woman. *Green Pastures* (1936) fell foul of the censors for portraying an all-negro Heaven.

Sex was a constant problem. Miss Shortt commented in 1931: "There are some pro*ducers who delight to show* the female form divine in a state of attractive undress . . . for the purpose of giving the film what is termed in the trade 'a spicy flavour'."

(Photographs courtesy of the National Film Archive)

Letter from Brunei

Harmony reigns on royal polo fields

Harmony i: this Malay corner of the world, with its explosive brew of proud royal houses and newly independent peoples, has been won largely on the polo field. It is a relatively short time since Malaysia was proposing resolutions in the United Nations complaining about Brunei's colonial status; Indonesia was *sponsoring* insurgency in the early 1960s.

Many of those differences have been straightened out at polo matches played between royal teams from the states of Malaysia and Brunei.

It was not until 1972 that the first polo pony arrived in Brunei, brought in by a local manager of the Chartered Bank. At first it was just a question of knocking a ball about on a nondescript piece of ground that could scarcely be called a pitch near the barracks of what was then the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment.

But when royal interest in the game became apparent foreign banks, firms and the British Army scoured their ranks around the world for polo players to post to the Sultanate. By 1980 Malaysian teams were visiting regularly and that year the first team was brought in by the King of Malaysia.

Since then polo diplomacy has sped Malaysia on to its goal of matching the already close friendship between Brunei and Singapore.

Even the Sultan of Brunei's new-found self-confidence is attributed to the game: "Before he started playing polo he *was shy and out of* condition. It has made a man of him."

During his recent visit the Prince of Wales and the Sultan played polo, choosing their mounts from the Sultan's stable of 250 active horses.

As they played, on the shaded veranda of the clubhouse – finished only that morning – stood Sultan Mahmood Iskandar of Johore, soon to become King of Malaysia; Sir Muda Omar Ali Saiffuddin, father of the Sultan of Brunei; a bevy of exquisite Malay ladies and the senior British officers of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces *with their wives.*

A celebration of royal privilege out of the period of high colonialism, and yet it was very much a contemporary diplomatic scene: a mark of the successful transition of Brunei into the South-East Asian family.

For years all the portents had seemed to indicate that it would not be done without tears and might not last long should it ever come to pass.

The combination of the Sultan's enthusiasm and his stupendous wealth, has resulted in the world's largest polo club at Jerudong. There are three grounds, air-conditioned stabling for the horses and a suitably pleasant, landscaped study farm. Close to the main ground there is a helipad. But when Prince Charles was there the Sultan chose to arrive in one of his latest acquisitions, a special-order all-white leather hood.

The Sultan was particularly pleased. For years he had been wanting to entertian the Prince of Wales at polo. He almost did not get his wish when the monsoon's daily deliveries seemed likely to drown the whole affair.

With only four hours before Prince Charles boarded his VC 10 to fly home the game was on, but only after two new machines flown in specially from Australia had been used to suck flood water out of the ground.

The going was still wet and sufficiently treacherous to unseat two Bruneian princes. According to rather partial British sources the Prince of Wales was the best player on *the field*, while the Sultan of Brunei was rated the most improved. But then the Sultan is able to practice almost every afternoon.

The Prince and the Sultan were happily in the winning team, which won by seven goals to two. Precisely who scored what was not always clear, but it is safe to say that the Royal Houses of Brunei and Britain took most of the honours.

But if the polo match was a symbol of historic continuity it was also indicative of the future. Even though the Sultan's polo exploits are assiduously reported by Brunei radio and television there were no ordinary Bruneian spectators, except those needed to tread in the divots. Nothing could have more clearly illustrated the great gulf that separates the ruler from the ruled.

David Watts

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh visits Nottingham, arrives Nottingham Station, 9.55.

Princess Anne, Chancellor of the London University, attends a Dinner at the University College Women's Dining Club, at University College, WC1, 7.30.

New exhibitions

Paintings by Sonia Ratcliff, Ginnel Gallery, Lloyds House, 16 Lloyd Street, Manchester; daily 9 to 5 (Thurs 9 to 8) (until March 23).

Paintings by George Blacklock and Clive Hodgson, Ikon Gallery, 58-72 John Bright Street, Birmingham,; Tues to Sat 10 to 6 (until March 31).

Homer's heroes – Mycenaen Greece (until April 30); Change in the inner-city; both at Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5.

Gods and goddesses of the Roman Cotswolds; Corinium Museum, Cirencester; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until September 30).

Recent paintings by Y. S. Huntriss, Banbury Museum, 8 Horsefair, Banbury, Oxfordshire; weekdays (not Tues) 10 to 4 (until March 24).

Last chance to see

Mapping the New World; ancient maps and portraits; Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society, Dorset County Museum, Dorchester; 10 to 5 (ends today).

Images of West Penwith; paintings and sculptures by Keith Barrett and Terry Whybrow; Falmouth Art Gallery, Falmouth, Cornwall; 10 to 1, and 2 to 4.30 (ends today).

Exhibitions in progress

Colman's mustard pot collection; Sheffield City Museum, Weston Park, Sheffield; Mon to Sat 10 toi 5, Sun 11 to 5 (ends April 1).

Dan Klein Studio Glass exhibition; Brighton Museum Church Street, Brighton; Tues to Sat 10 to 5.45, Sun 2 to 5 (closed Mon) (ends May 20).

Talks, lectures

War and the ideology of sacrifice, by Professor S. W. Sykes, 5.15; and Ancient Shipwrecks, by Dr A. J. Parker, 5.30; Elvet Riverside Lecture Room 140, Stage 1, Durham *University*.

Nucleosome structure and chromatin superstructure, by Dr Aaron Klug, Lecture Theatre 2, Bennett Building, Leicester University.

Music

Song recital by Nigel Rogers (tenor) and Richard Burnett (piano); Theatre Royal, Jewry Street, Winchester, 7.45.

Concert by Orchestra Da Camera, Library Theatre, Solihull, West Midlands, 8.

Concert by the County of Avon *Schools Orchestra, Colston* Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Classical piano trio open rehearsal, Holburne Museum, Bath, 7.30.

Recital by Lyn McLarin (flute), and Philip Booth (piano), Big School Theatre Studio, Hereford Cathedral School, 7.45.

Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta, Wyvern Theatre, Swindon, *Wiltshire, 7.30.*

Concert by the Scottish National Orchestra, Usher Hall, Edinburgh, 7.30.

General

Scottish Student Drama Festival: St Andrew's University Mermaids in *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, Third Eye Centre, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, 7.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,368

ACROSS

1 Petty cash in USA (3-3).
4 Pretended to be moved (8).
10 Fruitful source of temptation (5,4).
11 Old priest, breaking an oar, might get a rod instead (5).
12 Name Irish writer with an unfinished column (7).
13 Seer was hated at first – nonsense! (7).
14 Musical piece has Number Ten's backing (5).
15 Dropped issue, having acted like a lout (8).
18 Kind of racing where bumping is allowed (5-3).
20 Perfect plan followed by novice (5).
23 Splendid article about a Spanish city (7).
25 Put in again for medical *treatment after dance* (7).
26 Attempt it by ear? (5).
27 Great confusion about some fuel store (9).
28 It's a sort of house – not a school (8).
29 Drive furiously out of South Hornchurch (6).

DOWN

1 Endless paraphernalia required for poacher's craft (8).
2 Townee – not a foundation-member? (7).
3 It is clean maybe, but quite stiff (9).
5 At liberty to come in and *purchase from independent* business (4, 10).
6 Remove traces of age, point by point (5).
7 Where onlookers have standing in housing row (7).
8 Small inflatable partly superseding hydroplane (6).
9 It is mainly connected with restoration of power (7,7).
16 Skinny imp cried, upset after leaving Mile End (9).
17 Greek author deposited about a pound on a marble one (8).
19 Initially the price for liberating Light Division (7).
21 Safe seat for a throw-out, one hopes (7).
22 This ugly woman would need advance publicity to make headway (6).
24 The sort of language any artist may resort to (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,367

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 16

Roads

Midlands and East Anglia: A10: Roadworks with traffic signals along St Mary's Street, Ely, Cambridgeshire. A34: Roadworks at Tidmington, Warwickshire, south of Shipston on Stour; delays. A47: Traffic signals at Postwick between Norwich and Yarmouth, Norfolk.

Wales and West: A30: Roadworks between Wilton, Wiltshire, and Stockbridge, Hampshire; restrictions at Tinkerpit and Salisbury. A40: Surfacing between Bancyfelin and St Clears, Dyfed; *temporary traffic signals, delays.* A4044: Roadworks at Haymarket, Bristol; one lane only on the northbound carriageway.

North: A575: Major sewer works at Egerton Street, Farnworth, Greater Manchester; road closed near junction with Gladstone Road, diversions in operation. Liverpool: Queensway Tunnel closed nightly, all traffic diverted via the Liverpool-Wallasey tunnel between 9.15pm and 5.45am. A66: Roadworks between North Bitts and Greta Bridge, Durham.

Scotland: A74: Patching work in progress between Strathclyde regional boundary and the Scotland/England border; lane closures. A74: Patching work south of Crawford; southbound carriageway closed, all traffic sharing northbound carriageway. A74: Telecom ducting work between the B740 junction and Abingdon; inside lane of southbound carriageway closed.

Information supplied by the AA

The papers

Both the Daily Star and the Daily Mirror are critical of tax increases rumoured to be being considered by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for this year's Budget. The papers concentrate their criticism on suggestions that indirect tax increases will be used to enable personal taxes to be held to their present level, or even reduced.

The Daily Mirror, which is critical of the fact that Mr Lawson "has already, through the Inland Revenue, imposed a new tax on building societies which will prevent the cost of a mortgage from coming down . . . *and is telling the banks* that in future they must deduct income tax from the interest paid on deposit accounts, even where the saver is not liable to the tax . . ." adds: "He is scavenging for every penny and proposing, it seems, to use all he can grab for tax reliefs for the better-off."

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on private Member's motion on the provision of homes.

Anniversaries

Births: Bedřich Smetana, Litomysl (Czechoslovakia), 1824.

Deaths: John Wesley, London, 1791; Horace Walpole, Fourth Earl *of Orford, writer, author of The Castle of Otranto*, London, 1797; D. H. Lawrence, Vence, France, 1930; HOward Carter, archaeologist, discoverer of Tutankhamun's tomb, 1922, London, 1939.

First crosing of the Antarctic, by an expedition led by Sir Vivian Fuchs.

Top films

Top box office films in London:

1 (–) To Be or Not To Be
2 (2) Under Fire
3 (1) Scarface
4 (3) *Trading Places*
5 (4) Two of a Kind
6 (–) The Big Chill
7 (5) Sudden Impact
8 (8) Lianna
9 (7) Gorky Park
10 (10) The Honorary Consul

Top five in the provinces:

1 Robin Hood
2 Baby Love
3 The Jungle Book/Mickey's Christmas Carol
4 *Scarface*
5 Sudden Impact

Screen International

Food prices

Home produced lamb prices are up yet again this week. Whole leg ranges from £1.50 to £1.92 per lb, whole shoulder from 90p to £1.23 *and loin chops from £1.60 to £2.20.* But New Zealand whole shoulder is only 68-89p and Sainsburys have a special offer of whole leg at £1.19 and knuckle half at £1.26. Beef is a good buy, topside and silverside between £1.89 and £2.30 per lb and forerib roast on the bone £1.25 to £1.66. Sainsburys have reduced rib roast by 20p to £1.49 per lb. Tesco have chuck and braising steak and boneless rib at £1.44 and Fine Fare mince at 98p per lb.

Good pigs are in short supply, according to Dewhurst and pork prices are slightly up for some cuts. Loin chops are £1.13 to £1.40, rib chops 93p to £1.30, fillet end of leg 93p to £1.39 and boneless shoulder 90p to £1.30 per leb. Marks and Spencer have fresh chickens at 69p per lb and Safeway 3 lb packs of chicken thighs reduced from £1.89 to £1.19.

Fish is an attractive buy; cod fillets £1.33 per lb, haddock £1.39, plaice *£1.52*, sole £1.58 and mackerel 48p.

Canary Island salad tomatoes at 45 to 55p per lb are excellent value, and beef tomatoes at 40 to 55p are also good quality. Chinese leaves 30 to 55p per lb; cucumbers 35 to 45p each; round English and Dutch lettuce 25 to 35p each. Tesco have Spanish Icebergs at 65p. Otherwise there are few changes in vegetable prices, but carrots are a little cheaper at from 8 to 18p per lb. Aubergines, from to 60 to 90p, green peppers from 65 to 80p and *courgettes from 60 to 80p are all* good buys. Leeks from 34 to 42p per lb are always delicious.

There is plenty of good fruit available; apples, pears and citrus *especially, and Coxes still wonderfully* crisp and juicy. Safeway have Golden Delicious at 18p per lb. Grapes from the Cape are cheaper this week at from 75 to 90p per lb.

EY

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.64	1.56
Austria Sch	28.50	26.90
Belgium Fr	85.25	81.25
Canada $	1.92	1.85
Denmark Kr	14.75	14.05
Finland Mkk	8.69	8.29
France Fr	12.26	11.76
Germany DM	4.00	3.82
Greece Dr	163.00	153.00
Hongkong $	11.80	11.20
Ireland Pt	1.311	1.251
Italy Lira	2475.00	2375.00
Japan Yen	361.00	345.00
Netherlands Gld	4.54	4.32
Norway Kr	11.62	11.02
Portugal Esc	201.00	191.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Pta	226.50	217.50
Sweden Kr	12.05	11.45
Switzerland Fr	3.34	3.17
USA $	1.528	1.475
Yugoslavia Dnr	211.00	201.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 342.60.

London: The *FT* Index closed up 8.5 at 828.3

Weather forecast

A deepening depression over the North Sea will move away E, leaving the country in an unstable cold W airstream.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, SW, central S England, East Anglia, Midlands (E), Channel Islands: Rain clearing early, sunny intervals, scattered wintry showers; wind NW, strong, gale in some exposed areas; max temp 4 to 5C (39 to 41F).

E, NE, central N England, Lake District: Wintry showers, snow on hills; wind N, strong to severe gale; max temp 3 to 4C (37 to 39F).

Midlands (W), NW England, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals, scattered wintry showers, snow on hills; NW, strong to severe gale; max temp 3 to 4C (37 to 39F).

Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, Orkney, Shetlands: Snow showers, heavy at times; wind strong to severe gale; max temp 2 to 3C (36 to 37F).

SW, NW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Sunny intervals, snow showers, heavy at times. Wind NW, strong to gale; max temp 2 to 3C (36 to 37F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Sunny intervals and wintry showers dying out on Saturday with rain or drizzle spreading into N districts later; cold at first but temperatures returning to near normal.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind W, strong, at first, becoming NW, gale or severe gale; sea very rough. English Channel (E), St George's Channel: Wind NW, gale or severe gale; sea very rough. Irish Sea: Wind NW, gale or severe gale, locally storm at first; sea very rough.



Sun rises: 6.43 am | Sun sets: 5.43 pm
Moon rises: 7.13 am | Moon sets: 5.17 pm
New Moon: 6.31 pm.

Lighting-up time

London 6.13 pm to 6.11 am
Bristol 6.23 pm to 6.21 am
Edinburgh 6.20 pm to 6.29 am
Manchester 6.19 pm to 6.22 am
Penzance 6.36 pm to 6.31 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

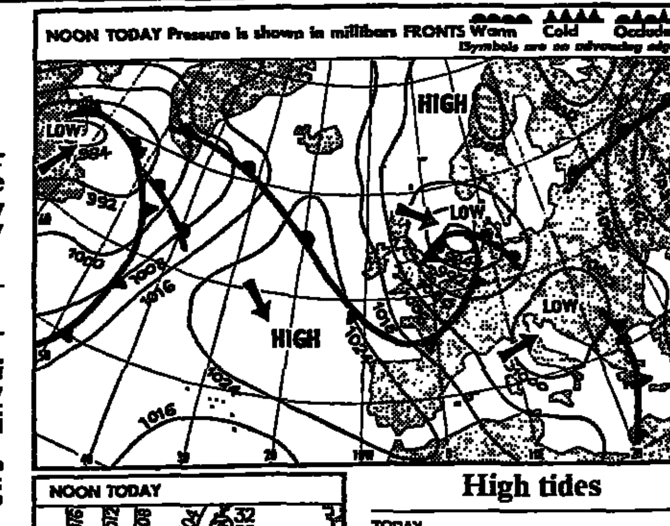
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	dr	7	45	Guernsey	c	7	45
Birmingham	c	10	50	Inverness	f	6	43
Blackpool	f	6	43	Jersey	r	6	43
Bristol	f	11	52	London	f	12	54
Cardiff	c	10	50	Manchester	r	7	45
Edinburgh	f	7	45	Newcastle	c	6	43
Glasgow	c	7	45	Ronaldsway	c	8	46

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Southampton, Torquay, 14C (57F); lowest day max: Lerwick 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen, 0.56ins; highest sunshine: Cardiff, 6.7hrs.

London

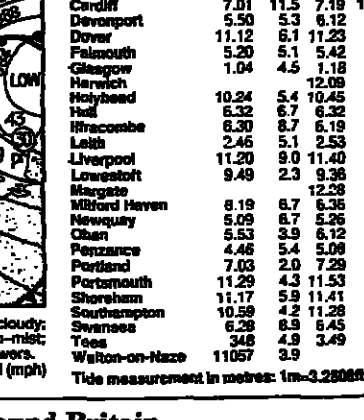
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13C (55F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 78 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.05in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 4.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,011.5 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.





b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

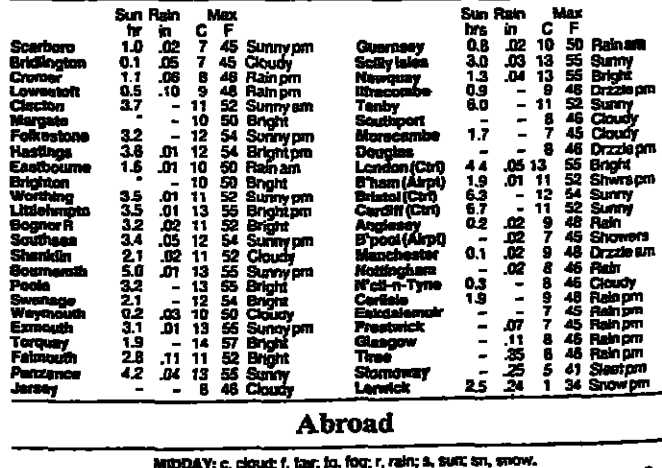


TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.48	6.7	2.12	6.9
Aberdeen	1.23	3.9	1.20	4.0
Avonmouth	7.16	12.5	7.34	12.4
Belfast	11.05	3.3	11.25	3.1
Cardiff	7.01	11.5	7.19	11.4
Devonport	5.50	5.3	6.12	5.1
Dover	11.12	6.1	11.23	6.3
Falmouth	5.20	5.1	5.42	4.9
Glasgow	1.04	4.5	1.18	4.9
Harwich			12.09	3.8
Holyhead	10.24	5.4	10.45	5.2
Hull	6.32	6.7	6.32	7.2
Ilfracombe	6.30	8.7	6.19	8.5
Leith	2.46	5.1	2.53	5.2
Liverpool	11.20	9.0	11.40	8.8
Lowestoft	9.49	2.3	9.36	2.4
Margate			12.28	4.4
Milford Haven	6.19	6.7	6.35	6.5
Newquay	5.09	6.7	5.26	6.6
Oban	5.53	3.9	6.12	3.7
Penzance	4.46	5.4	5.08	5.2
Portland	7.03	2.0	7.29	1.8
Portsmouth	11.29	4.3	11.53	4.4
Shoreham	11.17	5.9	11.41	6.0
Southampton	10.59	4.2	11.28	4.3
Swansea	6.28	8.9	6.45	8.8
Tees	348	4.9	3.49	5.2
Walton-on-Naze	11057	3.9		

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

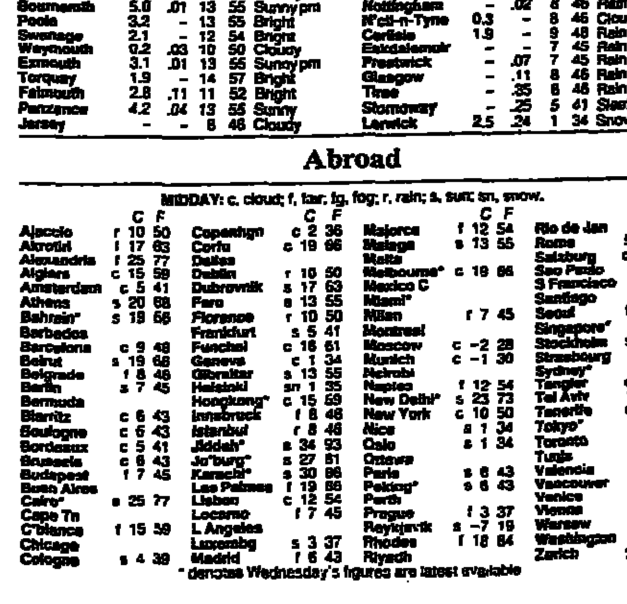
Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	1.0	.02	7	45	Sunny pm
Bridlington	0.1	.05	7	45	Cloudy
Cromer	1.1	.06	8	46	Rain pm
Lowestoft	0.5	.10	9	48	Rain pm
Clacton	3.7	–	11	52	Sunny am
Margate	–	–	10	50	Bright
Folkestone	3.2	–	12	54	Sunny pm
Hastings	3.8	.01	12	54	Bright pm
Eastbourne	1.6	.01	10	50	Rain am
Brighton	–	–	10	50	Bright
Worthing	3.5	.01	11	52	Sunny pm
Littlehmptn	3.5	.01	13	55	Bright pm
Bognor R	3.2	.02	11	52	Bright
Southsea	3.4	.05	12	54	Sunny pm
Shanklin	2.1	.02	11	52	Cloudy
Bournemth	5.0	.01	13	55	Sunny pm
Poole	3.2	–	13	55	Bright
Swanage	2.1	–	12	54	Bright
Weymouth	0.2	.03	10	50	Cloudy
Exmouth	3.1	.01	13	55	Sunny pm
Torquay	1.9	–	14	57	Bright
Falmouth	2.8	.11	11	52	Bright
Penzance	4.2	.04	13	55	Sunny
Jersey	–	–	8	46	Cloudy

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Guernsey	0.8	.02	10	50	Rain am
Scilly Isles	3.0	.03	13	55	Sunny
Newquay	1.3	.04	13	55	Bright
Ilfracombe	0.9	–	9	48	Drzzle pm
Tenby	6.0	–	11	52	Sunny
Southport	–	–	8	46	Cloudy
Morecambe	1.7	–	7	45	Cloudy
Douglas	–	–	8	46	Drzzle pm
London (Ctrl)	4.4	.05	13	55	Bright
B'ham (Airpt)	1.9	.01	11	52	Shwrs pm
Bristol (Ctrl)	6.3	–	12	54	Sunny
Cardiff (Ctrl)	6.7	–	11	52	Sunny
Anglesey	0.2	.02	9	48	Rain
B'pool (Airpt)	–	.02	7	45	Showers
Manchester	0.1	.02	9	48	Drzzle am
Nottingham	–	.02	8	46	Rain
N'cstl-n-Tyne	0.3	–	8	46	Cloudy
Carlisle	1.9	–	9	48	Rain pm
Eskdalemuir	–	–	7	45	Rain pm
Prestwick	–	.07	7	45	Rain pm
Glasgow	–	.11	8	46	Rain pm
Tiree	–	.35	8	46	Rain pm
Stornoway	–	.25	5	41	Sleet pm
Lerwick	2.5	.24	1	34	Snow pm

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	r	10	50	Copenhgn	c	2	36	Majorca	f	12	54	Rio de Jan			
Akrotiri	f	17	63	Corfu	c	19	66	Malaga	s	13	55	Rome	s	17	63
Alexandria	f	25	77	Dallas				Malta				Salzburg	c	−1	30
Algiers	c	15	59	Dublin	r	10	50	Melbourne*	c	19	66	Sao Paulo			
Amsterdam	c	5	41	Dubrovnik	s	17	63	Mexico C				S Francisco			
Athens	s	20	68	Faro	s	13	55	Miami*				Santiago			
Bahrain*	s	19	66	Florence	r	10	50	Milan	r	7	45	Seoul	f	−1	30
Barbados				Frankfurt	s	5	41	Montreal				Singapore*	f	29	84
Barcelona	c	9	48	Funchal	c	16	61	Moscow	c	−2	28	Stockholm	sn	0	32
Beirut	s	19	66	Geneva	c	1	34	Munich	c	−1	30	Strasbourg	s	5	41
Belgrade	f	8	46	Gibraltar	s	13	55	Nairobi				Sydney*	f	21	70
Berlin	s	7	45	Helsinki	sn	1	35	Naples	f	12	54	Tangier	c	13	55
Bermuda				Hongkong*	c	15	59	New Delhi*	s	23	73	Tel Aviv	f	27	81
Biarritz	c	6	43	Innsbruck	f	8	46	New York	c	10	50	Tenerife	c	20	68
Boulogne	c	6	43	Istanbul	r	8	46	Nice	s	1	34	Tokyo*	s	7	45
Bordeaux	c	5	41	Jiddah*	s	34	93	Oslo	s	1	34	Toronto			
Brussels	c	6	43	Jo'burg*	s	27	81	Ottawa				Tunis	f	16	61
Budapest	f	7	45	Karachi*	s	30	86	Paris	s	6	43	Valencia	f	12	54
Buen Aires				Las Palmas	f	19	66	Peking*	s	6	43	Vancouver			
Cairo*	s	25	77	Lisbon	c	12	54	Perth				Venice	r	9	48
Cape Tn				Locarno	f	7	45	Prague	f	3	37	Vienna	s	6	43
C'blanca	f	15	59	L Angeles				Reykjavik	s	−7	19	Warsaw	s	7	45
Chicago				Luxembg	s	3	37	Rhodes	f	18	64	Washington			
Cologne	s	4	39	Madrid	f	6	43	Riyadh				Zurich	sn	0	32

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

هكذا من الأصل